peninsula formed by Ashley and Cowper rivers; the former of which is navigable for ships twenty miles above the town, and in it is a modercure and commodious harbour. The streets are wide and laight, intersecting each other at right angles; those running east and west extend about a mile from one river to the other. Its harbour is good in every respect but that of a bar, which hinders veilels of morethan two hundred tons burthen from entering. The town is regularly and pretty strongly fortified by art and nature. Here are two very handsome churches built with brick, besides several other edifices for public worthip belonging to different sects of diffenters. Near the centre of the town is a neat market-house, and at a small distance is the state-house, a handsome and commodious brick building. In the neighbourhood of the town are convenient barracks sufficient for a thousand men. Charles-town contains about a thousand dwelling-houses, four thousand male inhabitants, and fix thousand negro slaves: it is the seat of the governor, and the place of meeting of the affembly. Several handsome equipages are kept here; for the planters and merchants are rich and well bred, the people expensive in their dress and way of living, and every thing conspires to render this one of the liveliest and politest places in North America. However, great part of the town was burnt down on the twenty-first of February, 1741, by which much valuable merchandize was entirely destroyed. It has also frequently suffered by inundations and unhealthy feafons.

At the breaking out of the American war in 1776, Charlestown was attacked by a squadron of thips commanded by Sir Peter Parker, and a body of land forces under general Clinton. The thips attacked the fort which commands the entrance of the harbour, but not being at all seconded by the army which had been landed, they were obliged to retire with

great loss, after a very oblinate contest.

The town of Beaufort is seated on the island of Port Royal, on the borders of Georgia, in the thirty-first degree forty minutes north latitude, and an hundred miles south of Charlestown, the island and continent forming a fine capacious harbour of such depth, that is capable of containing the whole royal navy of England. The island on which the town is seated consists of near a thousand acres, and is navigable all round for boats and periaguas, and one half of it for shipping, where large vessels may load and unload from the shore. The town, however, is not yet considerable, but bids fair in time for becoming the first trading town in this part of America.

The number of inhabitants in the whole province of South Carolina amounts to about fixty thousand whites, and above double that number of blacks. The roads are as good as in most parts of the world, and travelling as pleasant, they being made broad and convenient for all sorts of carriages.

The colony of Georgia abounds with all kinds of flesh, and sowl wild and tame, vegetables, fish, &c. In 1742 about five or six thousand Spaniards and Indians from St. Augustine invaded this country in about fifty vessels of all kinds, but were repulsed by general Oglethorpe at the head of the English forces, and a small body of Indians under Tomo Chicki's son. Whatever might be the cause, it is certain this infant colony drooped and languished from the year 1742 till Mr. Ellis was appointed governor; but under his administration it became again of such importance, that his late majesty George II. upon removing him to another government, rewarded him with a handsome present of money for the improvements made during his administration here.

On the coall of Georgia there are several islands, the chief of which are, Amelia, Cumberland and St. Simon's island. The first, lying seven leagues to the north of St. Augustine, is about two miles broad, and thirteen long. The second, lying about twenty-one miles south of Frederica, forms the inlet of Amelia Sound, which it commands, by means of a fort called Fort William, and has fine springs of water. The third, lying near the western mouth of the Alatamaha, is about three miles in breadth, and forty-sive in length. Frede-

rica stands in the middle of this illand.

Savannah town lies ten miles up the river of that name, where it forms a half moon, and where ships, that draw ten or twelve feet water, may ride for a mile within ten yards of the bank. Opposite to it is an island of very rich passurage. The river is pretty wide, and the water fresh; and from the quay of the town you see the whole course of it towards the sea, with the island Tybec, which forms the mouth of the river, and the other way you see the river for about sixty miles up into the country.

The town of Wilmington, situated on Clarendon river, is the largest town in the province, and has much the greatest trade; Neuborn is situated on the Neuse, and Edenton, on the Albemarle; at which three places the general assembly of North Carolina situates for making laws; but the planters being dispersed over the country, none of those towns are worth mentioning.

The most considerable of the Indian natives behind the Carolinas are the Creeks and Cherokees, of whom the men are generally tall, but the women little. They are a generous, good-natured people, and very humane to ilrangers; patient in want and pain, flow to anger, and not eafily provoked; but when they are thoroughly incenfed, they are implacable; very quick of apprehension, and gay of temper; their public conferences shew them to be men of genius, and they have a natural eloquence. They anoint their bodies with oil, and expose them to the sun, which occasions their shins to be of a dark brown: the men paint themselves of various colours, red, blue, yellow, and black: they generally wear a girdle, with a piece of cloth drawn between their legs, and turned over the girdle, both before and behind, which looks something like breeches. The women wear a kind of petticoat to their knees: both men and women, in the winter, wear mantles two yards square, which they wrap round their bodies, as the Romans did their toga, generally keeping their arms bare. They are very healthful, and have hardly any diseases, except those occationed by drinking rum, and the small-pox; they who do not drink, are extremely long-lived. Their food, instead of bread, is Indian corn, boiled and seasoned, like hasty-pudding; and this is called hommony: they also boil venison, and make broth of it, and eat all manner of fleth.

After his late Majesty had purchased the property of Carolina, orders were issued for building eleven towns near the Savannah and in Carolina; each of which was to have a district of twenty thousand acres of land square, to be divided into shares of sive acres for each man, woman or child of one samily, which was to be augmented, as the planters should be in a condition to cultivate a larger quantity: each town was also to be formed into a parith, the extent whereof was to be about six miles round; and, as soon as the parish contained one hundred matters of samilies, it was qualified to send two members to the alsembly of the province, and to enjoy the same

privilege as the rest.

The principal manufactures in Carolina are indigo, turpentine, rolin, tar, and pitch. The inhabitants of Georgia carry on a confiderable trade with the Creeks, Chickfaws, and Cherokees, for skins; they also deal with them for a few furs: the town of Augusta is commodiously situated for the Indian trade; it also stands on a very fertile spot, and has ever since its first establishment been in a very flourishing condition.

The province of Virginia, which is the antient of the American colonies, was first discovered by Sebastian Cabot, a native of Bristol; though the first attempts to settle a colony were not, strictly speaking, made in Virginia, but in that part of North Carolina which immediately borders upon it. When the fruit-fulness of Virginia was better known, and the dangers incident to an infant settlement were over, people in good circumstances went thither with their families, either to improve their estates, or avoid persecution at home; and particularly at the time of the grand rebellion, when several samilies attached to the royal family retired thither, as some of those on the other side did, upon the restoration of Charles II. but most of the latter went to New England, Virginia having distinguished herself by her loyalty, in adhering to the king's party.

This province has the Apalachian mountains, on the west; the Atlantic ocean on the east; Carolina on the south; and the river Patowmac, north. It is seven hundred and sifty miles long, and two hundred and forty broad; has a tolerable soil, and a sharp, but wholsome air. The sace of the country is generally low and slat towards the sea coast, and for one hundred miles up the country; so that there is hardly a hillor stone to be seen, except here and there some rocks of iron ore, and some banks of a kind of petrified oyster-shells. The whole country, before it was planted, was one continued forest, interspersed with marshes, which in the West Indies they call swamps.

There are in Virginia thirty-five counties, in which are above fifty parishes; but the only places that deserve the name of towns, and worth mentioning, are Williamsburgh and James Town. The former stands in James county, between James and York rivers, and is the seat of the government, assembly, and chief courts. The latter, namely James Town, stands about twenty-six miles above the river of that name, on the north side, in a peninsula, but is little better than a village.

Here is a college, called William and Mary college, having been founded by king William, who gave two thousand pounds towards it, and twenty thousand acres of land, with power to purchase and hold lands to the value of two thousand pounds a year, and a duty of one penny per pound on all tobacco exported to the other plantations. There is a president, six masters or professors, and other officers, who are named by the governors or visitors. The honourable Mr. Boyle made a very large dona-

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donation to the college, for the education of Indian children.

The practice of transporting criminals to this province, or to any of the territories belonging to the United States, being now prohibited, the convicts are for the future to be sent either to Nova Scotia or Canada.

No country produces greater quantities of excellent tobacco than this; and yet the soil is generally so sandy and shallow, that after they have cleared a fresh piece of ground out of the woods, it will not bear tobacco past two or three years, unless cow-penned, and well dunged. Virginiaalso yields rice, hemp, Indian corn, plenty of pasture, with coal, quarries of stone, and lead and iron ore. The forests yield oaks, poplars, pines, cedars, cypresses, sweet myrtles, chesnuts, hickery, live oak, walnut, dog-wood, alder, hazle, chinkapins, locust trees, sassafras, elm, ash, beech, with a great variety of sweet gums and

incense, which they distil from several trees; pitch, tar, rosin,

turpentine, plank-timbers, masts, and yards.

Their trees are much loftier than ours, and no underwood or bushes grow beneath; so that people travel with case through the forests on horseback, and never want a fine shade to desend them from the summer heats. Silk grass grows spontaneously in many places; the fibres of which are as fine as flax, and much stronger than hemp. Here is also a great variety of spontaneous flowers, particularly the finest crown imperial in the world, and the cardinal flower, so much extolled for its scarlet colour; the plains and vallies are adorned almost the year round with flowers of one kind or another. In this country is likewise found the tulip-bearing laurel tree, which has the plea-· fantest smell in the world, and keeps blossoming for the space of several months.

Besides the animals transported from Europe, such as horses, cows, sheep, and hogs, which are now extremely multiplied, those natural to the country are elks; red deer in great plenty, a fort of panther or tyger; bears, wolves, foxes, beavers, and racoons. Here is likewise that singular animal called the opossum, which seems to be the wood rat mentioned by Charlevoix, in his history of Canada. It is about the size of a cat; and, besides the belly common to it with other animals, it has another peculiar to itself, and which hangs beneath the former. As for reptiles, they have lizards, with several kinds of snakes, parti-

cularly the rattle snake.

Of birds, they have several sorts of eagles, hawks, and owls. The white owl is very beautiful, all the feathers of the back and breast being white as silver, except a black spot immediately below the throat: their turkeys are very large, some of them weighing forty pounds: they have also abundance of other fowls, geese, ducks, &c. Their partridges are smaller than ours, but very well tasted. They have likewise the Virginia nightingale, whose plumage is crimson and blue: the mocking bird, of two forts, grey and red, is thought to excel all others in his own note, and imitates that of all others; they have here also the humming bird, the smallest of all the winged creation, and by far the most beautiful, being all arrayed in scarlet, green, and

gold.

We learn from the accounts of those who have lived among the Americans of the frontiers of Virginia, that they are of a middling stature, straight, and well proportioned, with the finest limbs in the world; nor is there a dwarf or mis-shapen person among them. Their colour is that of copper rendered darker by greating themselves, and being exposed to the weather. They have black eyes, and their hair is coal-black, which the men cut into several shapes, and both men and women grease it so that it shines. Their cloaths are a large mantle, carelessly wrapped round their bodies, and sometimes girt closely with a girdle. The common fort only pass a piece of cloth or string round their middles, and put a piece of cloth or skin between their thighs, which turns over the string at each end. Their shoes, when they wear any, are made of an entire piece of buckskin. The dress of the women differs little from that of the men; only the richer fort have more beads and bracelets. They commonly go naked as far as the navel downwards, and upwards to the middle of the thigh; their breasts are round and small, and never hang down, as those of the black women on the coast of Guinea. The better sort wear a kind of coronet four or five inches broad, and open at top, composed of a sort of beads, and some a wreath of dyed furs; they have also bracelets on their necks and arms; but the common people go bareheaded, only they stick large shining feathers in their hair.

Their food is Indian corn, soaked and boiled in water, beavers, turtle, several kinds of snakes, broth made of deerhumbles, peas, beans, &c. Instead of keeping their children warm, they dip them over head and ears in cold water. When the English first came among them, they had no iron tools; their knives were sharpened reeds or shells, and their axes sharp stones. They felled trees by laying fire to their roots; and by fire they also hollowed them, and made canoes of them. Their

way of producing fire was, by rubbing one stick against another that was foster. They reckon their years by winters; and divide them into five seasons, the budding-time, the earing of the corn, the summer, the harvest, and the winter. The months they count by the moon. They divide the days into three parts; the rise, power, and lowering of the sun. They keep their ac-

compts by knots on a string, or notches on a slick.

The province of Maryland was discovered in the year 1606, when Virginia was first planted; and for some time was esteemed a part of Virginia, till king Charles I. in 1632, granted all that part of Virginia which lay north of Patowniac river, to the lord Baltimore, of the kingdom of Ireland, and his heirs. The Baltimore family were deprived of the government of this province during the civil wars in England, but recovered it again at the Restoration; and they well deserved to be so, for they established a persect toleration in all religious matters: the colony increased and flourished; and dissenters of all denominations, allured by the prospect of gain, flocked into

Maryland.

The tyrannical government of James II. again deprived this noble family of their possession, acquired by royal bounty, and improved by much care and expence. At the Revolution, however, lord Baltimore was again restored to all the profits of the government, though not to the right of governing, which could not consistently be conferred on a Roman catholic. But after the family changed their religion, they obtained the power as well as the interest. The government of this country exactly resembled that in Virginia, except that the governor was appointed by the proprietors, and only confirmed by the crown. The customs too were reserved to the crown, and the officers belonging to them were independent of the province. So far is Maryland at present from being a popish government, that the protestants, by far more numerous, have excluded them from all offices of trust and power. They even adopted the penal laws of England against them. The church of England was by law established here: and churches have not only been built, but parishes allotted to them with annual stipends to the ministers; every christian male sixteen years old, and negroes male and semale, above that age, paying forty pounds of tobacco, which is levied by the sheriff, among other public burdens, and yields to each about one hundred pounds sterling at a medium.

Maryland lies between thirty-seven degrees fifty minutes, and forty degrees, north latitude, extends in length one hundred and forty, and in breadth one hundred and thirty-five miles; has the Apalachian mountains to the west; Delaware bay to the north; Patowmac river to the fouth; and the northern ocean

to the east.

The parts next the sea are very low, but the interior districts are hilly. The air is excessive hot in the summer, and intensely cold in the winter; but the latter is not of above three months duration. The principal bays are those of Chesapeak and Delaware, and the most noted cape that of Henlopen, at the entrance of Delaware bay. The bay of Chesapeak divides the province into two parts, of which one lies on the east, and the other on the west. It is watered by innumerable springs, sorming a great many fine rivers, of which the chief are Patowmac, Pocomoac, Patuxhent, Severn, Cheptouk, Sassafras, and Wicomocarivers, and that of St. George. These and other rivers, capable of receiving large ships, with the numerous bays and creeks that indent the land on every lide, give the scamen an opportunity of bringing their veffels up to the planters doors.

Tobacco is the chief commodity here, of which the province exported annually, many years ago, upwards of thirty thousand hogsheads, each hogshead seven hundred pounds weight. This article forms the medium of currency of Maryland, being received in debts and taxes; and the inspectors notes for tobacco, delivered to him, are transferrable. An industrious man can manage fix thousand plants of tobacco, and four acres of Indian corn. The tobacco of this province, called Oroonoko, is different from that of Virginia; and, though not much liked in England, yet, in the eastern and northern parts of Europe it is preferred before the fweet scented tobacco of James and York rivers in Virginia. Another confiderable commodity of Maryland is pork, of which large quantities are exported, salted and barrelled; the woods containing valt droves of wild swine, which are generally of small fize. Great quantities of hemp and flax are raised in this province, and the mountains yield abundance of iron ore, which is run into pigs, and refined into iron. Maryland oak is not greatly effectived for building large ships, but is very proper for finall crast and staves. Good land here yields about fifteen bulliels of wheat an acre, or thirty bushels of Indian corn; but the grain is very subject to the weevil-

There are but few towns in the province as yet, the English living at large in their feveral plantations. Indeed each plantation is a little town in itself, and can sublist itself with provisions and necellaries, every considerable planter's warehouse

being

being like a shop, where he supplies inferior planters, servants, labourers, and has commodities to barter for tobacco, &c. money

being as little used as wanted here.

The few Indians near Maryland live on the east shore, where they have two or three little towns. They are employed in hunting for deer by the English. The cause of their diminishing proceeded from their perpetual discords and wars amongst themselves. It is remarkable, that though they are very timorous and cowardly in fight, yet when taken prisoners and condemned, they die apparently undaunted, singing all the time they are on the rack, and braving the most inexpressible tortures.

Maryland consists of two divisions; viz. the eastern and western. The east division contains seven counties and six towns; and the west division has the same number of counties and towns. The principal town is Annapolis, formerly called Severn, but it received its present appellation in 1694, when it was made a port town, the residence of a collector, and naval officer. The county court was removed thither in 1609, and ever since it has been the chief seat of justice, and is deemed the capital of the province. Baltimore town contains only some scattered buildings, and is therefore too inconsiderable to merit

particular description.

Pennsylvania, under the name of the New Netherlands, was originally possessed by the Dutch and Swedes. When these nations, however, were expelled from New York by the English, admiral Penn, who, in conjunction with Venables, had conquered the illand of Jamaica, being in favour with Charles II. obtained a promise of the grant of this country from that prince. Upon the admiral's death, his son, the celebrated quaker, availed himself of this promise, and, after much court solicitation, obtained the performance of it. Though as an author and a divine, Mr. Penn be little known but to those of his own persuasion, his reputation in a character no less respectable is universal among all civilized nations. The circumstances of the times engaged valt numbers to follow him into his new settlement, to avoid the prosecutions to which the quakers, like other sectaries, were then exposed; but it was to his own wisdom and ability that they are indebted for that charter of privileges which placed this colony on so respectable a footing.

This great man established, in the utmost latitude, civil and religious liberty, as the great and only foundation of all his institutions. Christians of all denominations might not only live unmolested, but have a share in the government of the colony. No laws can be made but by the confent of the inhabitants. Even matters of benevolence, to which the laws of few nations have extended, were by Penn subjected to regulations. The affairs of widows and orphans were to be enquired into by a court constituted for that purpose. The causes between man and man were not to be liable to the delay and chicanery of the law, but decided by wife and honest arbitrators. His benevolence and generolity extended also to the Indian nations; instead of taking immediate advantage of his patent, he purchased of those people the lands he had obtained by his grant, judging that the original property and eldest right, was vested in them. In short, had William Penn been a native of Greece, he would have had his statue placed next to those of Solon and

Lycurgus.

Mr. William Penn's laws, founded on the folid basis of equity, still maintain their force; and as a proof of their effects, it is only necessary to mention, that land was lately granted at twelve pounds an hundred acres, with the quit-rent of four shillings reserved; whereas the terms on which it was formerly granted, were at twenty pounds the thousand acres, with one shilling quit-rent for every hundred. Near Philadelphia, before the commencement of the late war with the mother country, land rented at twenty shillings the acre, and even sold at twenty

years purchase several miles distance from that city.

An ingenious author observes, that the noble charter of privileges by which Mr. Penn made the inhabitants of this settlement as free as any people in the world, has fince induced vast numbers of various persuasions and countries to put themselves under the protection of his laws. He staid in the country two years, till he had settled every thing to his own and the people's satisfaction; during which he behaved in fuch a manner to the Indians, that he inspired them with the most extraordinary love and esteem both sor him and his people. Their descendants recrived from them the fentiments of this benevolent man, and Itill speak of him with the greatest gratitude and assection; and We never they would express an extraordinary regard for any Englithman, they fay, "We effeem and love you as if you were that good man William Penn himfelf."

This province is three hundred miles long, and two hundred and forty broad; being bounded, on the east, by the Delaware river, and the Atlantic ocean; on the fouth and west, by Maryland; and, on the north, by the country of the Iroquois or Five Mations: the whole territory towards the coast is flat, but titles gradually to the Apalachian mountains. It enjoys a clear

air, and is very cold during winter. The river Delaware is often frozen over. The heats would be intolerable in autumn, if they were not mitigated by frequent sca-breezes.

The several rivers, with the numerous crecks and harbours in Delaware bay, capable of containing the largest fleets, are extremely favourable to the trade of this province. The principal rivers are, Delaware, Susquehannah, and Scoolkil. The Delaware, rising in the country of the Iroquois, takes its course southward, and, after dividing this province from that of New Jersey, falls into the Atlantic ocean between the promontories or capes May and Henlopen, forming, at its mouth, a large bay, called, from the river, Delaware bay. This river is navigable above two hundred miles. The Sufguehannah rifes also in the country of the Iroquois, and, running fouth through the middle of the province, falls into the bay of Chesapeak, being navigable a great way for large ships. The Sculkil has its source in the same country as the other two, and also runs south almost parallel to them; till at length, turning to the eastward, it falls into the Delaware at the city of Philadelphia: it is navigable for boats above one hundred miles.

The foil, produce, and traffic of Pennsylvania, are much the same as those of the Jerseys and New York, of which we shall presently treat. They have some rice here, but no great quantities; and some tobacco, but it is not equal to that of Virginia. From the premiums offered by the Society of Arts, &c. in London, it appears, that the soil and climate of this province are looked upon as proper for the cultivation of some species of vines. The trade carried on from hence, and the other colonies, to the French and Dutch islands and Surinam, was never at all to the advantage of Great Britain, and very hurtful to the fugar-colonies; for they take molafles, rum, and other spirits, with a great many European goods, from these foreigners; car-rying them horses, provisions, and lumber in return, without which the French could not carry on their sugar manusacture

with equal advantage.

Pennsylvania, before the late disputes, was one of the most flourishing colonies in North America. The people seldom had any quarrels with the Indian natives; the latter, however, rose in their demands for land in proportion as European settlers feemed eager to purchase. We find that upwards of twenty years ago the proprietaries, who alone can purchase lands here from the natives, had bought seven hundred thousand acres for no more than seven hundred and fifty pounds sterling, which the proprietaries afterwards fold at the rate of fifteen pounds for every hundred acres. The Indian council at Onandago, however, disapproved of their deputies parting with so much land: and in the year 1755, obliged the proprietaries to reconvey to the Indians great part of the same.

There happened, about the year 1704, some alterations in the constitution of the province, by investing a governor, council, and assembly, each with the same power and privileges as in the neighbouring colony of New York; the lieutenantgovernor and council being, with his Majesty's approbation,

appointed by the proprietors, the Penns.

This province is divided into seven counties, four of which are called the upper, and three the lower. The upper are Buckingham, Philadelphia, Chester, and Lancaster; the lower, Sus-

fex, Kent, and Newcastle.

Philadelphia, the capital of this province, is feated in the county of the same name. It is built upon one of the finest plans that ever was formed, laid out by Mr. Penn himself, and far excels any other city in North America. It is seated between two navigable rivers, the Delaware on the north, and the Schoolkil on the south, which join each other a few miles below, and is near a hundred miles above the bay, into which the river discharges itself. It is an oblong of near two miles in length, extending nearly to each of those rivers, where the front facing each is a mile in length. The streets are wide and spacious, with a dry desended walk on each side, and are exactly strait and parallel to each other: the houses are, in general, well-built, and make a handsome appearance, especially several of the public buildings, which are not exceeded by any in the country. The High street, which runs the whole length of the city, is a hundred feet wide, parallel to which run eight streets, that are crossed by twenty more at right angles, all of them thirty feet wide. Every owner of a thousand acres has his house in one of the two fronts facing the river, or in the High-street, running from the middle of one front to the middle of the other. In the centre of the city is a square of ten acres, encompaifed by the town-house and other public buildings, and in each quarter of the city is a square of eight acres. Several canals are let into the town from each river, which add to the beauty and convenience of the place. It has noble barracks for the reception of the king's troops, and the finest market of any on the continent, it being of a prodigious extent, well built, and as well regulated and supplied. Its quay is two hundred seet square, to which ships of four or five hundred tons may come up, and

lay their broad fides close to it; with wet and dry docks for building and repairing of ships, besides magazines, warehouses, and all other conveniencies for exporting and importing of merchandize. The proprietor's seat, which is the usual place of the governor's residence, and is about a mile above the town, exceeds any private building in America, both in its magnificence and the pleasantness of its situation. In short, scarce any thing can appear more beautiful than the city and the adjacent country, which for some miles may be compared to a fine and flourishing garden. The city contains about four thousand houses, and about twenty thousand inhabitants. The academy of literature, established in this city, is the noblest institution in the province of Pennsylvania.

The most considerable of the other towns in this province are, Bristol, Falls Town, and Pennsbury, in the county of Buckingham; Chester town, Chichester, and Marcus Hook, in the county of Chester; Newcastle town, Haverford-west, Merioneth, and St. George, in the county of Newcastle; Dover, Cranbrook, Marden, Maspelliven plantations, in the county of Kent; Lewes, in the county of Sussex; Lancaster, in the county to which it gives name; and Ephrata, sourteen miles from Lancaster, on the frontier part of the county, and in a

most delightful situation.

The unbounded latitude given to liberty of conscience in this country, has occasioned its being inhabited by people of almost every religious sentiment, each of whom is allowed its distinct place of worship. Here are Quakers, church of England people, Lutherans, catholics, presbyterians, independents, baptists; and the dumplers, or drunkards, a sort of German sect, who live in common in a small town called Ephrata, forming a kind of religious society, wearing long beards, and a habit resembling that of friars; but marry, and live in a peaceable manner by cultivating the earth. In short, the diversity of the people, religions, nations, and languages, is here prodigious, and the harmony in which they live together is no less amiable than edifying.

The Jerseys and New York being contiguous to each other, and intimately connected by a variety of other circumstances,

we shall therefore blend their descriptions together.

The boundaries and extent of these countries are as follow; the Jerseys have New York on the North; the Atlantic ocean on the east; Delaware river on the south and east; and the bay on the south-east: it is one hundred and sixty miles in length, and one hundred and fifty in breadth. New York is divided from the east and west Jerseys, and Pennsylvania, by Hudson's and Delaware rivers; on the east and north, it joins New England; and on the north-west, Canada. Its extent is three hundred miles in length, and one hundred and fifty in breadth. The chief rivers, besides those of Hudson and Delaware, are those of Onandago, Mohawk, Raritan, and Maurice. The extensive lakes of Champlain, Ontario, and Erie, lie on the frontiers of the province of New York to the north-west. The capes are those of cape Mary, on the east entrance of Delaware river; Sandy Point, near the entrance of Raritan river; and Mountang Point, at the east end of Long illand. That illand, and another called Staten Hland, belong to the province of New York. The first, which the Dutch call Nassau, is about one hundred and twenty miles long, from east to west; but no more than ten, at a medium, in breadth. The eastern part of it was settled from New England; but two-thirds of it is a barren, fandy soil. Staten island is about twelve miles in length, and six in breadth, and is inhabited by Dutch and French, as well as English. Nantucket, or Tantucket, Martha's Vineyard, and Elizabeth islands, formerly belonged to New York, but were annexed, by charter granted at the revolution, to the colony of Massachuset's bay.

The commodities and produce of New York and the Jerseys consist of horses, pipe-staves, pork, beef, and sish, salted and barrelled up; oil of whales and sea-calves, skins and surs, iron and copper; all forts of grain, as wheat, rye, peas, beans, oats, barley, buck-wheat, Indian-corn, Indian peas, and beans; to-bacco, pot-ashes, and wax, which they export to the West India islands, not excepting the French and Dutch, and to England, Old Spain, Africa, and Portugal; importing, in return, rum, sugar, molasses, negroes, salt, and wine; and from Great Britain, in particular, houshold goods, cloathing of all kinds, hard-ware, tools, and toys. They traffic also with the logwood cutters in the bay of Honduras; and with the Spanish settlements, exchanging the manufactures of Europe for Spanish gold

and dollars.

The governments of New York and Jersey, before the late unhappy contest, were vested in the crown. That of New York was administered by a governor, with commission under the broad seal of England; the legislative power and authority being lodged in the governor and council, who were twelve in number, appointed by the king, but filled up by the governor, and twenty-seven representatives elected by the people. In other

respects, the government was persectly conformable to the laws of England. The administration of it was in the governor and council, of whom five were a quorum; and upon the death or absence of the governor, the first in nomination of the council presided. The people chose their representatives, the numbers of whom were fixed by the crown; and these representatives had much the same privileges as the members of the British parliament were invested with.

There were three negatives in the civil government of New York. First, that of the governor, who is likewise vice-admiral and chancellor of the province. Second, that of the council, which, with the governor, forms a court of error and chancery. Third, of the house of representatives, twenty of whom serve for counties, and the remaining sour for the two towns of Perth-Amboy and Burlington. This house, though not a court of judicature, had the privilege of inquiring into the mal-admini-

stration of the courts of justice, and rectifying abuses.

The province of New Jersey is divided into East and West Jersey. East Jersey is again divided into four counties, viz. those of Monmouth, Middlesex, Essex, and Bergen. The principal towns in which are, Perth-Amboy, the capital of the county of Middlesex, and of all East Jersey, pleasantly situated at the mouth of Raritan river; and, had it been built according to the intended model, would have been one of the finest towns in North America; but planters have not resorted to it as was expected, notwithstanding it is so commodiously situated for trade, that ships of three hundred tons may come up in one tide, and lie before the merchants doors; but the town of Elizabeth, situated to the northward of it, slourishes much more, and might be deemed the most considerable town in this part of the country.

Newark stands in Essex county, and has about fisty thousand acres annexed to it, and Middleton is twenty-six miles south of Piscataqua. Shrewsbury is a considerable town, and the most southern in this province. On the twenty-second of October, 1746, a college was established at Brunswic; and between Mid-

dleton and Shrewsbury there is an iron work.

The division of West Jersey consists of several counties. It has an easy communication with New York by the river Æsopus; and with Maryland, by another stream which falls into

Chesapeak bay.

The principal place is Burlington, fituate in forty degrees forty minutes north latitude, on an island in the middle of the river Delaware, to the north of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, and on the opposite side of the river. The houses are hand-somely built of brick, and laid out into spacious streets, with commodious quays and wharfs, to which ships of two or three hundred tons may come up: it has also a handsome market-place, a guildhall or town-house, two good bridges over the river, the one called London-bridge, and the other York-bridge: by the river Delaware, it has an easy communication with Philadelphia and the ocean.

The city of New York was formerly called Amsterdam. It is situated in Mahamattan illand, which is twelve miles long, and between two and three broad, lying at the mouth of Hudson's or the Iroquois river. It is not very large, but few cities in Europe can vie with it in regularity and neatness. The trade of the inhabitants is carried on by water-carriage, and ships of five hundred tons may come up to the wharfs of the city, and be almost afloat. Hudson's river, where it runs by New York, is above three miles broad, and proves a noble conveyance for the goods of the counties of Albany, Ulster, Dutchess, Orange, and Kings, to that city. This place is governed by a mayor and aldermen, and such other officers as our corporations. It contains six markets, said to be better supplied with all kinds of provisions than any in Europe. The town and harbour are defended by forts and battaries. Twelve years ago the horses kept here were computed at five thousand. The principal edifices are the town-house, the council-house, where they hold their general assemblies and courts of justice, the English church, the meeting-houses, of all forts, the free-school, and the public library. Here is also a printing-office.

The town of Albany is one hundred and forty-three miles up the river, and but five below the place where it is parted into two branches. It confifts of between three and four hundred families, who are mostly of Dutch extraction, and has a strong fort and garrison for its descree, as being situated on the frontier of the province. It is not, however, the most distant settlement, for there is a place called Schenectady, sixteen miles above, on a river that runs into Hudson's. Kingston is a pretty populous, well-built town, ninety miles up the river, where the Æsopus

falls into it from New Jersey.

The Iroquois, or Five Indian nations, inhabit the north-west part of the province of New York. One of these nations, or tribes, are called Mohawks, from inhabiting the country about the great Mohawk river. These Indians of the Five Nations are deemed the bravest and most formidable people of North

America,

America, and at the same time as polite and judicious, as carr well be conceived; which appears not only from the management of their affairs with the French and English, but with almost all the Indian nations of this vast continent. An English historian observes, that notwithstanding the Iroquois live under the darkest ignorance, yet a bright and noble genius shines through those black clouds. The most celebrated Roman heroes have not discovered a greater love for their country, or a greater contempt of death in the cause of liberty. "I think, says he, they have outdone the Romans, especially those who murdered themselves to avoid shame or torment; for our Indians have not only refused to die unmanly by their own hands, when they thought their country's honour at stake; but have given up their bodies willingly to the most cruel torments their enemies could inflict; to shew that the Five Nations consisted of men whose courage and resolution could not be shaken. They sully, however, these noble virtues by that cruel passion of revenge, which they think not only lawful, but honourable, to exert without mercy on their country's enemies; and in this only they deserve the name of Barbarians." Another gentleman, of English extraction, but a native of this country, and resident a considerable time among the Iroquois at Albany, says, "they are an exceeding hospitable, good-natured people, given to revenge only when they are drunk; and the instances that have been given of it are no evidence of a vindictive temper; for the cruelties they inflicted on some French prisoners, and their Indian allies, were by way of retaliation of the like cruelties first exercised by the French on their people." It is observed, that the French, in the first wars which they had with the Iroquois, when they imagined that people were not able to resist the force of their arms, used them in a barbarous manner, which gave the Iroquois such an abhorrence of that nation, as was afterwards very serviceable to the interest of the English in this country.

These Five nations form as many distinct republics, governed by their sachems, or civil magistrates, in time of peace; and by their warriors, or captains, in their wars; but their chiefs never resolve on nor execute any thing of importance, without first consulting the heads of their tribes. They acknowledge a supreme Being, whom they stile the Preserver of the Universe; and they believe a future state of rewards and punishments; but have very obscure, indistinct notions of it, and seem to think the rewards of the good will consist in the enjoyment of those pleasures they were most fond of in this life. They imagine dreaming to be nothing but a fally of the foul out of the body, and taking a trip into that happy land; and if the dream be unpleasant, they attribute it to some obstruction, enemy, or accident, it hath met with in the way. They are very strict in observing the oaths they take to each other, especially those which their warriors make of standing by one another to the last; and which they keep so strictly, as to hazard their lives to res-

cue the bare carcase of their fallen brethren.

The business of the men is hunting, going to war, building their huts, felling of timber, tilling the ground, and the like. They commonly sow a field with beans one year, and the next with Indian wheat. The women are commonly so prolific, that it is a wonder to see one from sixteen to sifty, who is not either pregnant or suckling; yet they do most of the drudgery, as grinding the wheat, fetching of wood, water, and the like. The children are often so stubborn, that if they are found fault with, the boys will dispatch themselves with a gun, and the girls with some poisonous weed. They commonly make a feast over the grave of a dead person, and put into it wheat, tobacco, and every thing they think the deceased may want in the other world.

In this country is that great water-fall, or cotoos, called the Fall of Niagara. This surprizing cataract, said to be the greatest in the world, is a quarter of a mile broad, and seventy seet deep. The water, precipitating itself from several rocks, which project from the rest, falls down on every side in torrents, and being broken near the bottom by many separate crags, rises in a white froth. From the whole arises a misty cloud, that decends like small rain, and exhibits, when the sun shines, a beautiful rainbow, that moves as the spectator moves, according to the angle of vision. As the waters fall from rocks one hundred and forty seet high, a noise is produced like thunder heard at a great distance.

S E C T II.

Of NEW ENGLAND, NOVA SCOTIA, and CANADA, their Situation, Boundaries, and Extent; principal Towns, Climate, Soil, Productions, Trade, Manufactures, Government, Laws, &c. together with an Account of the Rife and Progress of the War between Great Britain and the Colonies, which terminated in the Independency of the American States.

HE extensive and powerful country we are now about to describe, namely, New England, comprehends Massa-80.

chuset's bay, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Providence Plantation. It is situated between sixty-seven and seventy-three degrees of west longitude, and between forty-one and forty-sive degrees of north latitude; is sive hundred and sifty miles long, and two hundred broad, and has the province of New York on the west; Nova Scotia or Arcadia, on the north-east; Canada, on the north-west; and the Atlantic ocean, on the east and south.

The summer-season here is warmer than ours, but of short duration. For the space of two months the sky is persectly clear, which renders the country so healthy, that it is reported to agree better with British constitutions than any other of the American provinces. The winters here are long and severe, the wind often boisterous, and the air extremely sharp, but not intolerable. Naturalists ascribe the early approach, length, and severity of the winters, to the large fresh-water lakes lying to the north-west of New England, which being constantly frozen over from the beginning of November to June or July, occasion those piercing winds which prove so fatal to mariners on this coast.

The land towards the sea is, for the most part, low, and frequently marshy; but in the country it rises into hills, and on the north-east becomes altogether rocky and mountainous. The soil about Massachuset's bay is black, and the grass rank; but the uplands are fruitful. The fruits of Old England come to great perfection here; and the country in general produces corn, pulse, esculent plants, Indian corn, and all kinds of timber. The oaks here are inserior to those of Old England; but the firs are of a prodigious bulk; and they draw from these, and other trees, pitch, tar, rosin, turpentine, gums, and balm; the soil also producing hemp and stax, a ship may be built and rigged out with the produce thereof; and in this country ship-

building is a considerable employment.

In New England there is a great abundance and variety of fowl; as geese, ducks, turkies, hens, partridges, wigeons, swans, herons, heathcocks, pigeons, &c. Quadrupeds are also very numerous here; and European cattle thrive and multiply excedingly. The horses of the province are hardy, mettlesome, and serviceable, but small. Here are also elks, deer, hares, rabbits, squirrels, beavers, otters, monkies, racoons, sables, bears, wolves, foxes, together with a variety of other tame and wild quadrupeds; but the most extraordinary of their animals is the moose or mouse deer; the black species of which is about twelve feet high, with four horns, and broad palms, some distant near twelve feet from the top of one horn to the other. His body is about the fize of a bull; his neck refembles a stag's; his tail is fomewhat longer; and his flesh extremely grateful. The lightcoloured moose, called wampoon by the Indians, is of a smaller stature, and much more common than the black. The rattlesnake is another natural curiosity of New England, though not peculiar to it. The surrounding seas, and intersecting rivers, afford abundance of fish; consequently there are many fisheries, particularly for cod and mackarel. The falt-works are improveable, and the iron-mines considerable.

They export from hence biscuit, meal, salt provisions, sometimes cattle and horses, planks, hoops, shingles, pipe-staves, butter, cheese, grain, oil, tallow, turpentine, bark, calf-skins, tobacco, apples, cyder, and onions; they bring in return fugar, cotton, ginger, and various other commodities. From Europe they import wine, filks, woollen cloth, toys, hardware, linen, ribbands, stuffs, laces, paper, houshold furniture, husbandry tools of all kinds, cordage, hats, stockings, shoes, and India goods. In short, there is no British manufacture, that serves the purpose of luxury or ornament, which the people of New England do not import. They also send ships to the bay of Honduras for log-wood, which they transport to Europe; as they do sugar from the West Indies, and fish from Newsoundland. Their inland trade, besides masts, yards, and provisions of all kinds, consists chiefly of furs, and the skins of beavers and martins. The furs and skins are brought in by the Indians, especially those on the rivers Penobscot and St. John. Their money is for the most part paper-currency, which has been attended with many inconveniencies in the circulation of

The established religion in New England is that of the Independents. The church government admits of synods, but the synods have no power to enforce their own acts. The minifters of Roston depend entirely on the generosity of their hearers for support; a voluntary contribution being made for them, by the congregation, every time divine service is celebrated. Tho the puritans of various sects, who first transported themselves hither, rather than conform to the church of England, complained of their not being allowed toleration, yet they were so far from granting it to those who differed from them, that they put to death several quakers, and would not permit people of any other sect or denomination of Christians but themselves to have any share in the governments they erected here.

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Great care is taken of the education of children. Every town of fifteen families is obliged to maintain a school for reading and writing; and, of one hundred families, a grammar-school, for the instruction of youth; besides which, there are four colleges. They have no holidays, but that of the annual election of the magistrates of Boston, and the commencement at Cambridge.

A late writer observes, with respect to the government of New England, that by the new charter granted to the Massachusets by king William III. the appointment of a governor, lieutehant-governor, secretary, and all the officers of the admiralty, was vested in the crown; that the power of the militia was wholly in the hands of the governor, as captain-general; that all judges, justices, and sheriffs, to whom the execution of the law is intrusted, are nominated by the governor, with the advice of the council; and that the governor has a peremptory and unlimited negative on the choice of counsellors; so that he is not obliged to give a reason for what he does in this particular, or restrained to any number; that authentic copies of the several acts passed by this colony, as well as others, ought to be transmitted to the court of England for the royal approbation: but if the laws of this colony are not repealed within three years after they are presented, they are not repealable by the crown after that time; and that no laws, ordnances, elections of magistrates, or acts of government whatfoever, are valid, without the governor's consent in writing. Notwithstanding this, previous to the late unhappy disturbance, the people had still the greatest' share of the power in this colony; for they not only chose the assembly, but this assembly chose the council (equivalent to our house of lords) with the governor's concurrence.

Three forts of government were originally established by the English on the continent of America, viz. royal governments, charter governments, and proprietary governments. A royal government is properly so called, because the colony is immediately dependent on the crown, and the king remains sovereign of the colony. A charter government is so called, because a company, incorporated by the king's charter, is in a manner vested with sovereign authority. A proprietary government is so denominated, because the proprietor has a kind of regal au-

thority, either by purchase or gift.

Every town in New England, if it contains thirty-two burgesses, can send two representatives to parliament; if twenty, one; but Boston nominates four. The general assembly, in concurrence, imposed taxes, made grants, enacted laws, and redressed public grievances of every kind. It consisted of the magistrates, and a certain number of representatives, who formed two chambers, so nearly resembling our lords and commons, that the concurrence of the majority of both was necesfary, before any bill could be presented to the governor for his ailent.

No person can be arrested here, if there are any means of satisfaction pitched upon; nor imprisoned, unless there be a concealment of effects. Adultery is punished with death to both parties. The laws were always very severe against Quakers. To bring one in, is a forfeiture of one hundred pounds; to conceal one, forty shillings an hour; to go to a quaker's meeting, ten shillings; to preach there, five shillings. If a quaker be not an inhabitant, he is subject to banishment; and if he returns, death. Vagrant quakers to be whipped, branded with the letter R on the left shoulder, and banished; if they return, death. How far these rigorous laws are consistent with the peaceable and passive spirit of Christianity and its Divinc Author, we leave the reader to judge.

The name of the Massachuset's colony was given to it by the Indians who inhabited these parts when the English first came hither. It is subdivided into the provinces of Plymouth, Massachuset Proper, and Maine; and is bounded by the colonies of Connecticut and New York, on the west; Merrimack river,

on the north; and the ocean, on the cast and south.

The most southerly of these provinces, namely, Plymouth, runs along the coast one hundred miles, from cape Cod to cape Manchester, and is near fifty broad, from Monument bay to Sectuati. It is divided into the counties of Bristol, Plymouth, and Barnstable, taking their names from the chief towns of each; of which Bristol is large and populous, having a commodious harbour, and the best trade in New England next to Boston. Several illands lie on the coast of this province, particularly Rhode illand, Elizabeth's illand, Martha's or Martin's vineyard, in which are several towns or villages of Indians who have cmbraced Christianity.

The province of Massachuset Proper is bounded by New York, on the west; Massachuset's bay, on the east; New Hampshire, on the north; and by Plymouth and Connecticut, on the fouth: it contains the counties of Suffolk, Middlesex, and Ellex, all of them lituate on Malfachulet's bay. Bolton, Salem, and Cambridge, are the three capital towns of these

counties.

The capital town of Boston, is seazed in the county of Suffolk,

in the province of Massachuset Proper, in the forty-second degree twenty.one minutes north latitude, and in the seventy-first degree west longitude, at the bottom of a fine bay, in a peninsula about four miles in circumference. At the entrance of this bay are several rocks which appear above water, and upwards of a dozen small islands, some of which are inhabited. There is but one fafe channel to approach the harbour, and that so narrow that two ships can scarcely sail through abreast; but within the harbour there is room for five hundred fail to lie at anchor. The entrance is defended by the castle of Fort William, one of the finest pieces of military architecture in British America, it being surrounded by a covert-way, and joined by two lines of communication from a main guard to a redoubt. The castle is defended by an hundred guns, twenty of which lie on a platform level with the water, so that it is scarce possible for an enemy to pass the castle. To prevent surprize, they have a guard placed on one of the rocks at about two leagues distance, from whence they make fignals to the castle, when any ships come near it. There is also a battery of great guns at each end of the town, to the fire of which an enemy would be exposed, if he should be so fortunate as to pass the castle. At the bottom of a bay is a pier near two thousand feet in length, with warehouses for the merchants on the north-side; and to this pier ships of the greatest burden may come and unload without the help of boats. The greatest part of the town lies round the harbour in the form of a crescent; the country beyond it rising gradually, and affording a delightful prospect from the sea. The town has several streets little inserior to the best in London; the principal street runs from the pier up to the townhouse, a handsome building, with walks for the merchants, as in the Royal Exchange in London; this edifice contains not only the courts of justice, but the council-chamber and the house of representatives. The town consists of between four and five thousand houses, which are in general well-built, and several of the public structures are very spacious and elegant. It has seventeen churches, or places appropriated to divine worship. The episcopal church is handsomely built and adorned, and the congregation is said to amount to about a thousand. The churchfurniture, and some pieces of plate, were given by king William and queen Mary; it has an organ, and there is a magnificent seat for the governor, when he happens to be of the church of England. The governor has also a very fine house. Among the other buildings are Fenneuil-hall, thus named from Mr. Fenneuil, who was its founder. The shipping of this port in the year 1760, was computed at between fix and seven hundred; the inhabitants of the town then amounted to about twenty-five thousand, and there was said to be two hundred thousand in the province; according to the computation of Dr. Franklin, the inhabitants of the northern colonies of America double their numbers in the revolution of fixteen years. Such a rapid increase of population was never equalled in any part of the world.

Cambridge, the principal town in the county of Middlesex, is scated on the north branch of Charles river, fix miles to the north-west of Boston, and has several fine houses and good streets. It was originally called New Town, but on founding the university changed its name to Cambridge, and contains two spacious colleges, called by the names of Haverford-college and Stoughton-hall, with a public library, faid to be the best furnished with books of any in that part of the world. It confifts of a president, five sellows, and a treasurer. The governor of the povinces, deputy-governor, and all the magistrates of the Mailachuset's colony, with the ministers of six neighbouring towns for the time being, are visitors. This university never conferred any degree above that of master of arts, till it obtained a new charter from king William and queen Mary, by which it had the power of creating doctors of divinity.

The town of Salem is situated on a plain between two rivers, on each of which it has a harbour eighteen miles north of Bolton. Ship-building, particularly the construction of fishingfinacks, has always been the principal business carried on here.

The province of Maine is the third grand division of the Massachusets government. Its boundaries are, the bay of Massachuset, on the south-east; Nova Scotia, on the north-east; and the province of New Hampshire on the south-west and northwest, in which are the two counties of York and Cornwall, Several fortifications were erected on the north-east part of this province in a former war, to defend the country against the French and Indians of Nova Scotia, particularly at Saco, Kennebeck, Saghadock, and Pemaquid. The principal towns here are, Falmouth, Saco or Scarborough, Wells, Hedeck or Newcaltle, Edger Town, York, Ketteren, Berwick, and Biddesord.

New Hampshire, or Piscataqua government, is bounded by Canada on the north-west; Massachuset colony, on the southwest; the province of Maine on the south-east; and by Nova Scotia, on the north-east. There are not many towns in the inland country: it still remains a great forest, covered with ex-

cellent

cellent timber; but the soil does not seem proper either for corn or grass. The chief towns in the province are Dover, Portsmouth, Exeter, and Hampton; all which lie near the

mouth of the river Piscataqua.

Connecticut is bounded by the Massachuset's colony on the north; by Rhode Island, on the east; by New York, on the west; and Long Island, separated by an arm of the sea, on the south. It is about one hundred miles in length, and seventy in breadth; and abounds in metals and naval stores, especially simber, and has many good ports. This colony is divided into sour counties, and its chief towns are Newhaven, Hertford, and New London. Connecticut river, which is one of the largest in New England, runs through the heart of the province, and is navigable above forty miles for large vessels, and much farther for small ones.

The town of Newhaven stands upon the coast, and has a college for academical learning, called Yale-hall, pretty well endowed, and furnished with a good library. New London is a town of good trade, situated on the west-side, and near the mouth of the river called Thames. Hertford, situated on the banks of Connecticut river, is a handsome populous town.

Rhode island comprehends, besides the island, a district on the continent, called Providence Plantation, which lies opposite to Rhode island, and is about twenty miles square, has two large thriving towns, near the mouth of the river Patuxel, one of which is called Providence, and the other Warwick. It is inhabited chiefly by quakers, with some few of the church of England; and, though small, is in a flourishing condition.

The island, which is about fifteen or sixteen miles long, and about four or sive broad, is called the Paradise of New England, from the fruitfulness of the soil, and the temperateness of the climate. The chief town is Newport, situated on the south-west part of it, and having a good harbour, defended by a regular fort. A great trade is carried on from hence to sugar-colonies with butter, cheese, horses, sheep,

beef, pork, tallow, &c.

We are now come to the most eastern part of the continent of America, namely, Nova Scotia, New Scotland, or Acadia. It is bounded by the bay of St. Lawrence and the Atlantic ocean, on the east; the same ocean and New England, on the fouth; the river St. Lawrence, north; and Canada, on the west; being three hundred and fifty miles long, and two hundred and fifty broad. It had its name of Nova Scotia from Sir William Alexander, a Scotlman, and lecretary to king James I. who had the first grant of lands in it. By the treaty of Utrecht, it was ceded to Great Britain, and a regiment was fent over to take possession of Annapolis, the capital; but no provision was made to plant the rest of Nova Scotia, till the year 1749, when about three thousand English families, under the command of governor Cornwallis, were sent thither, and erected the town of Halifax, in Chebucto bay, and several other embarkations have been made since that time.

This is in general a fine country, the climate being tolerably temperate, though pretty severe in winter, when the cold is tharp and the snow lies deep on the ground; but the air is there generally clear, with a bright sunshine and azure sky:

the fummer is, however, hotter than in England.

The foil is various, in some places barren, and in others exceedingly pleasant and fertile; particularly round the Bay of Fundy, and on the rivers which fall into it; there are large tracts of ground on both sides of these rivers, for fifty or sixty miles into the country, and several miles from the bay, which were once marthy, but, by being dyked, are improved to great advantage. The eminences in this province are also very plealant and fruitful, producing wheat, rye, Indian corn, peas, beans, hemp, than, and fome kinds of fruit in great perfection, as gooleberries, ratherries, and strawberries, which grow in the woods. Several parts yield fine timber, and particularly excellent oak fit for building of thips, with fir, spruce, birch, &c. It abounds with all the necessaries of life, particularly a great number of deer and other game, with plenty of wild fowl, as teals, herons, woodcocks, pigeons, butlards, partridges, wildducks, and a great number of beavers and otters. The rivers abound with falmon and other kinds of river-fish. There are also several fitheries crested in the different harbours, and carried on with great fuccels.

On the coast are many commodious bays, harbours, and creeks; and the land is enriched by many rivers, some of which are navigated for a long course by the native Indians. The harbour of Chebusto, upon which is seated Halifax the metropolis, may be justly e teemed one of the finest in the world, both for safety and convenience, it having good anchoring-ground, and water sufficient for the largest men of war. This is therefore made the place of rendezvous for the royal navy in America, it having a royal dock, and conveniences for the largest ships to heave down and careen. The entrance into it is from the south, with a large island of an irregular form, lying on the

north-east side, named Cornwallis island, from the sirst governor of Halifax. This island, as well as a smaller one that lies higher up the harbour, named George island, is very commodiously situated for a fishery, and has conveniencies of all sorts proper for drying and curing the fish.

The town of Halifax is seated on the west side of this harbour. Though sounded so lately as the year 1749, it is now a considerable place, consisting of above one thousand houses, laid out in handsome straight streets, and is the capital of the

whole province.

Annapolis is situated on a fine bay, a little south of Fundy, bay, in sixty-four degrees odd minutes west longitude, and forty-five degrees of north latitude. It is well fortissied, but requires a stronger garrison to defend it than it has been surinished with of late years.

There are also several other towns laid out round the bay, and partly inhabited; but the most considerable settlements are upon the Bay of Fundy, and the rivers that fall into it.

About two miles up the harbour of Chebucto is a river on the fouth-west side, with a small harbour at its entrance. This river, which was called by the first settlers of Halifax, Sandwichriver, is at the mouth about as wide and deep as the Thames at London-bridge, and is falt water for about four or five miles up, when it terminates, where a small fresh water rivulet falls into it from the north. From the mouth of Sandwich-river to the opposite side of the harbour, is about two miles, with good anchoring-ground for the largest ships in any part of it, and a fine watering-place on the north-east side: the land on both sides is exceeding high, but covered with wood. Four or five miles to the north of the above river, is a narrow entrance of half a mile, into Bedford-bay, which is about twelve miles in circumference, and has several creeks at the bottom of it, abounding with the finest salmon in the greatest plenty: there are also several illands in it, and on the western side of it grow a great number of pines fit for masts. This bay, with the harbour, and Sandwich-river, divide the peninfula from the mainland.

There are several large rivers on the opposite shore, among which that of St. John is the most considerable. It is ten leagues distant from the Gut of Annapolis, and has a very long course; but has two prodigious cataracts near its mouth, one of them no less than thirty sathoms deep, which is supposed to be chiefly occasioned by the great head of water above, and the channel

being pent up between two steep mountains.

The inhabitants may be computed at about twenty thousand, who export to other parts lumber, as planks, staves, hoops, and joists, together with fish. The latter is, indeed, the staple commodity, and employs a considerable number of hands.

The king of Great Britain, who is sovereign of the soil, appoints the governor, the lieutenant-governor, and council, who form the upper-house; and the lower-house is formed of the representatives of the people, who are chosen by the freeholders.

The province of Canada, which is the largest upon the continent, is bounded, on the north-east, ly the gulf of St. Lawrence and St. John's river; on the south-west, by lands inhabited by the Indians; on the southward, by the province of New York, New England, and Nova Scotia; and, on the westward, by lands claimed by the Indians. It is deemed five hundred miles in length, and two hundred in breadth.

The climate and soil vary; the parts best known, which lie towards the great river St. Lawrence, are cold to an excess in winter, though rather warm in summer. The rest of the country, as far as it is known, is full of large woods, marshes, lakes, mountains, and rivers, which render it still colder. The lands, however, especially in the interior parts, and about the lakes and rivers, are generally fertile, and capable of producing wheat, barley, rye, with many sorts of grain, fruits and vegetables; tobacco, in particular, thrives exceedingly, and is much cultivated.

Here are plenty of stags, elks, bears, foxes, martins, ferrets, weazles, squirrels, hares, rabbits, and other animals. The wild-cats are great enemies to the elk; and, notwithstanding their being much inserior in size, often make a prey of him: for he has no other way to disengage himself from them, but by plunging into the water. The tkunk, which has been improperly called the pole-cat, but which it no ways refembles, is called by the Indians the Hinking beatt, on account of its emitting a disagreeable sinell to a considerable distance, when purfued or disturbed. It is about the fize of a small cat. The fur of this animal, with that of the ermin, otter, and martin, make up what is called the small peltry. The ermin is about the size of the squirrel; its fur is extremely white, its tail long, and the tip of it as black as jet. The martin, or fable, lives principally among the mountains, is as long as a common cat, but very stender; its fur is very fine and valuable. The musk rat resembles the beaver in every part, except its tail, which is round like that of a rat. One of these animals weighs about

five or fix pounds. During the summer season the male and female keep together, but separate at the approach of winter, and each seeks a shelter in some hollow tree, without laying up any provisions. The foxes here are of various colours, as black, grey, red, and white, who, by their craft and cunning, make great havock among the water-fowl in the lakes and rivers. Here are three forts of squirrels; that called the flying squirrel will leap upwards of forty feet from one tree to another. The hares and rabbits differ little from those in Europe, only they turn grey in winter. The mountains abound with mines of

coal and some metals.

The lakes are large and numerous: the chief are, Lake Superior, which is one hundred leagues in length, seventy broad, and contains several islands; the lakes Michiganor Illinois, Hurons, Ontario, Frontenac, Champlain, &c. Of the rivers, which are very numerous, the three principal are, the great river St. Lawrence, St. John's, Trois Rivieres. The bay of St. Lawrence is entered between Cape Retz, in Newfoundland, and Cape Breton, and after doubling Cape Rose, you steer into the river of the same name. Towards the south lie the bay and Point of Gaspey; below this bay is a Steep, called the Pierced Island, from an aperture in its middle, through which a sloop may pass with her sails up.

At a league distance from the Broad island lies the island Bonaventure, and at a league distance from that the island Miscon, which has an excellent harbour, and is eight leagues in circumference. A spring of fresh water spouts up to a considerable

height in the offing, not far from this island.

The next object that presents itself in the river St. Lawernce is the island Anticosti, and the current setting strongly in upon it, renders the navigation here extremely dangerous, in case of a calm, especially as the island is lined with breakers. This island is narrow, but lies in the middle of the river, and extends about forty leagues from north-east to south west. After passing this island, the navigation becomes more tolerable, but still great precaution must be used. The mounts Notre Dame and Louis lie on the larboard side; near the latter are some plantations. The next point is Trinity Point, which must be avoided with great care. A little higher are the Paps of Montani, so called from the appearance of the mountain, situated about two leagues from the shore. The land in the neighbourhood is not only unprofitable, but frightful, being covered with rocks, lands, and impenetrable thickets: it contains however plenty of game.

On the other side the river, and advancing two leagues into its bed, lies the shoal of Manicoagu, which is the most dangerous in the river: it is named from a river that falls from the mountains of Labrador, and otherwise called the river of St. Barnabas, and the Black River. From this to Green Island the navigation is flow and uncertain, and the shores uncomfort-

able and uninhabited.

Somewhat higher lies the river Saguenay, which carries ships twenty-five leagues above its mouth, where is an excellent harbour, called Tadouffac; in sailing from which, great care must be taken to avoid the Red Island, or Cape Rouge, which is a dangerous rock of that color, whose surface is equal to the wa-

ter, and often proves fatal to shipping.

Besides a great variety of other fish in the lakes and rivers, particularly that of St. Lawrence, are sea wolves, sea cows, porpoifes, the lencornet, the goberque, the sea plaice, salmon trout, turtles, lobsters, the chaourasou, sturgeon, the achigau, and gilt head. The sea wolf, so called from its howling, is an amphibious creature. His head resembles that of a dog: he has four very short legs, the fore ones of which have nails, but the hind ones terminate in fins. The largest weigh two thousand pounds, and are of different colours. Their flesh is good eating, . but the profit of it lies in its oil, which is proper for burning and currying of leather. Their skins make excellent coverings for trunks, and, though not so fine as Morocco leather, they preserve their freshness better, and are less liable to crack. The Thoes and boots made of those skins let in no water, and, when properly tanned, make excellent and lasting covers for seats. The Canadian sea cow is larger than the sea wolf, but resembles it in figure. It has two teeth of the thickness and length of a man's arm, that, when grown, look like horns, and are very fine ivory, as well as its other teeth. Some of the rivers breed crocodiles, which differ but little from those of the Nile in Egypt.

There are not so many or such varieties of birds in the forest of Canada, as there are fishes in the rivers and lakes. They contain, however, a great number of trees of different kinds

whose appearance is both beautiful and awful.

When the French had possession of Canada Proper, it was inhabited by one hundred and eighty thousand people of that nation, who lived in affluence, being free from all taxes, and having full liberty to hunt, fish, fell timber for fuel or building, and to fow and plant as much land as they could cultivate. Their greatest hardship was the cold, which is there so excessive

from December to April, that the greatest rivers are frozen over, and the snow commonly lies two or three seet deep on the

ground in the winter feafon.

Montreal and Trois Rivieres are the principal places in this province. The former stands on an island in the river St. Lawrence, which is ten leagues in length, and almost four in breadth, at the foot of a mountain which gives name to it. about half a league from the fouth shore. The French improved it so well, that the whole island was become a most delightful spot, and produced every thing that could administer to the conveniences of life. When the town was reduced by general Amherst, it was of an oblong form, well peopled, and surrounded by a wall, with eleven redoubts, which served instead of bastions. The streets are regular, the houses good, the ditch eight feet deep, and the batteries of the fort command the streets of the town.

The inland trade is with the Indian natives; and there is a species of traders, called Coureurs des bois, who carry on trade with nations unknown to all the world besides. A fair is held in June at Montreal, to which Indians resort from the distance of one hundred miles with peltry, and the other Indian commodities. This fair sometimes lasts for three months. The resort of sayage nations to it is incredible; and great disorders and tumults often happen, the Indians being so fond of brandy, that they sometimes for a dram give the Coureurs des bois all they

have in the world.

In the neighbourhood of this illand, on which the town stands, is a great number of others, particularly that called the Isle of Jesus, which is about eight leagues in length and two in breadth: there are also several lakes; among others that of St. Louis, and that formed by the opening of the river Des Outaonais, or the Great River, into the river St. Lawrence. On the banks of the last of these rivers likewise, not far from Montreal, are two villages of Iroquois Christians; one called La Montagne, and the other Sault St. Louis.

Trois Rivieres, or the Three Rivers, has its name from three rivers, which join their currents about a quarter of a mile below it, and fall into the great one St. Lawrence. This town gives name to a district, and stands about thirty leagues up the river St. Lawrence from Quebec. It is much reforted to by several nations that come down those rivers to it, and trade with it in various kinds of furs, and the country about it is pleafant, and fertile in corn, fruits, &c. A great number of handsome

houses stand on both sides the rivers.

There are several other places of note in this province, the chief of which are, Gaspé, Jean Isle, Miscon Isle, Richelieu Isles, Isle Conti, St. François, Notre Dame des Anges, St. Alexis, St. Michael, St. Joseph, Forts Frontenac, Detroit, Michilachimenac and Niagara, near which is the famous cataract

above described.

Saguenay province takes its name from a river so called, and contains Quebec, the capital of Canada, seated about three hundred miles north of Boston in New England. This is a handsome and large city, strongly fortified. The harbour is flanked with two bastions, which at high tides are almost level with the water. A little above one of them is a demi-bastion, which is partly taken out of the rock; and above it, on the lide of the. gallery of the fort, is a battery of twenty-five pieces of cannon; above this a square fort called the citadel, and the ways from one fortification to another are difficult to pass. To the left of the harbour, on the side of the road, are large batteries of cannon, and some mortars. It is encompassed with walls, and has a castle on the brow of a hill, about forty fathoms above the town; but it is irregularly built, and fortified with only two bastions, and no ditch towards the town. It has also another fort at Cape Diamond of solid rock, four hundred fathoms high, and therefore owes its greatest strength to nature.

The first place taken notice of upon landing here is a square of an integular figure, with well built houses on one side; on the back of which is a rock; on the left it is bounded by a small church, and on the right has two rows of houses parallel to each other: there is another betweeen the church and the harbour; as also another long row on the side of the bay. This is called the Lower Town, and is mostly inhabited by merchants. but it is too much crouded. Between this and the Upper Town is a very steep ascent, in which are steps for the foot passengers to go up. This has noble edifices, and between two large squares is a fort in which the governor resides. Opposite the fort the Recollects have handsome houses, and on the right is the cathedral, which is built in a mean stile, but has a large, high, and well built tower, that may be seen at a great distance. Over-against this is the Jesuits college, which is a fine building, and between the cathedral and the college are well built houses. The house of the knights hospitallers is a stately structure, with two fine pavilions. In the second square are two descents to the river of St. Charles; an hospital called Hotel-Dieu is in the mid-way, and from thence are smaller houses, which reach to

that



that of the intendant. On the other side of the jesuits college is a pretty long street, in which is a nunnery. Almost all the houses are built of stone, and there are above seven thousand inhabitants. Belides the Lower and Higher towns, there is another beyond the latter, on the banks of the river St. Charles, along which are several noble country seats. In 1711 the English fitted out a fleet with a design to reduce Quebec; but the expedition failed from the rashness of the admiral, who, contrary to the advice of his pilot, sailed too near the Seven Isles, and thus lost his largest ships, with three thousand of his best sailors. But it was attacked with much better success in 1759, when the brave general Wolfe, who commanded the British forces, and M. de Montcalm, the French general, were both flain. After the battle, in which the French lost near two thousand men, killed and taken prisoners, the place surrendered to the English, and has been ever since that time in their posfession.

Between Quebec and Montreal, in sailing up the river St. Lawrence, the eye is entertained with beautiful lanscapes, the banks being in many places bold and steep, and shaded with lofty trees, and in others crowded with villages, of which there are also many on the islands, wherewith the channel of the river is interspersed. After passing the Richlieu islands, the air becomes so mild and temperate, that the traveller thinks himself trans-

ported into a different climate.

The most considerable of the Canadian tribes of Indians at present are, the Iroquois, the Hurons, Miamis, Nokes, Oumamis, Outagamis, Sakis, Illinois, Oubaches, Otters or Loutres, Savannois, Sionx, Assiniboils, and Christinaux. The seven last live towards the north west, about the rivers Missouri and Oubache, and about Lake Superior and Assiniboil. To the north of the island of Montreal the country is thinly peopled; but a few villages belonging to the inhabitants are to be inet with, among which are those belonging to the Nepissings, so called from a lake of that name; these are the true descendants of the Algonquins, and still preserve the purity of that language. The French established some ports on the banks of Lake Superior, where they traded with the Christinaux and Assiniboils. In short, a traveller can know very little more of this country than a man may learn by an inspection of the map. He may wander one thousand miles on the banks of the finest lakes and rivers in the world, without meeting with a human creature, and those he does meet with are generally so stupid, cruel, barbarous, or shy, that they scarcely deserve that denomination. Most of them subsist by fishing and hunting, and appear to be void of all notions of agriculture.

In this northern corner of America are some almost unknown districts, which go under the name of New Britain, or the country of the Esquimaux, comprehending Labrador, New North and South Wales, &c. It is bounded on the fouth by the bay and river of St. Lawrence and Canada, on the west by unknown lands, on the east by the Atlantic ocean and Baffin's bay, and on the north by unknown lands towards the north pole.

In this country the mountains are very high towards the north, which being perpetually covered with snow, and the winds blowing from thence three quarters of the year, are the chief occasion of that excessive cold which is found on this continent under the same parallels of latitude. The winter generally commences in September, and continues till June; during molt of that time the snow lies very deep upon the ground, and the rivers are frozen eight or nine fect thick. The country about fort Nelson is a low marshy soil, producing juniper, birch, poplar, a finall wood of the spruce, &c. The lands near the south end of the bay produce large timber, and plenty of herbage, and

no doubt would produce corn, if cultivated.

Terra de Labrador is situated on the southern coast of Hudson's straights: the soil here is much of the same nature as that on the western side of the bay. This country is of a triangular form, extends from the fiftieth to the fixty-third degree of north latitude, and from the fifty-first to the seventy-ninth degree of west longitude, and is inhabited by some tribes of Esquimaux Indians, who have neither towns, villages, or settled habitations, but are numerous, mischievous, treacherous, and cowardly. They exchange furs for kettles, pots, knives, and other kinds of hard-ware. They subsist chiefly by hunting and fishing, as their country abounds in great variety of wild and tame quadrupeds, fowls, &c. and the feas and rivers afford plenty of fish. The Indians of all forts, inhabiting the country about Hudson's hay, lead a wandering life, seldom remaining more than a week or two in a place.

The Englith Hudion's hay company have several sorts and settlements on this coast, the principal of which at present are, Forts Churchill, Nelson, New Severn and Albany, on the west fide of the bay: and they had formerly Forts Charles and Rupert at the bottom of the bay. The English, in these factories, kill beef, pork, mutton, and venison at the beginning of the winter, and these are preserved by the frost six or seven months go.

free from putrefaction; geele allo, partridges, and other fowls. killed at the same time, are hung up with their seathers and entrails, yet hold good all the winter. In lakes and standing waters, which are not ten sect deep, the water is frozen to the bottom, and the fish killed; but in waters of greater depth, and in rivers near the sea, the fish are caught all the winter by cutting holes in the ice, to which they come for air. As foon as they are taken out of the water, they are immediately frozen and stiff, but may be thawed again by being immersed in cold water; and thus the salt provisions are thawed and freshened here: the meat is let down through a hole in the ice into the water, and in a little time it becomes soft and pliable, as if it never had been frozen, and eats very well; whereas roasted or boiled, while frozen, it will be spoiled, and eat as if it was rotten.

There is no want of food about Hudson's bay at any time of the year. In April come the geese, bustards, and ducks, of which they kill as many as they please. About the same time they take great numbers of rein deer, and these do not return to the north till July or August. In summer they also take pike, trout, carp, and other fish; and all manner of wild fowl return

again in the beginning of winter.

There have been sometimes a thousand Indian men, and some women, who have come down to Port Nelson in six hundred canoes to trade with the English: many of them come from sar distant countries. These Indians are of a tawny complexion, and not so fair as those in Labrador, nor of such large robust

bodies, but much more gentle and tractable.

In summer they wear scarcely any cloaths, but anoint themselves with bears grease, or the oil of seals, which, it is said, prevents their being stung by musquetoes, or bit by bugs or other insects; but those in Labrador go always cloathed. In winter the fouthern Esquimaux Indians cloath themselves with beaver skins, which they oil and grease in the same manner as they do their own skins in summer, which prevents the cold penetrating them, and have a kind of bulkins on their legs, and thoes of deer skins: they use also beaver skins and surs for their beds and coverings in the night.

We shall now give some account of the rise and progress of the diffentions which unhappily subsisted between England and America. These originated in New England, on the Britith parliament imposing stamp duties on all papers and parchiments made use of in law proceedings, and in money transactions between man and man in the year 1765. This act being repealed the following year, caused the general ferment to sublide; but in the year 1769 it revived with accumulated force, on fresh internal taxes being laid, particularly a duty of three-pence per

pound on all teas.

The provincial assembly had for some years been on ill terms with Mr. Barnard, the governor of the province, and he being now recalled, was succeeded by general Gage; and a body of forces, amounting to about two thousand men, which sailed from Ireland and Halifax, arrived soon after. But neither the new governor, who was known and respected in the province, was capable of allaying the ferment, nor the appearance of the troops could overawe that spirit of opposition which was gone forth. A general confederacy of all the old colonies, from New England to South Carolina, took place, and affociations were every where entered into, for the purpose of breaking off all commercial intercourse with the mother country.

A general congress, composed of deputies from each independent county, met at Philadelphia, which the authority of the governors of the respective colonies was not able to controul. The right of Great Britain to levy internal taxes on that continent was denied, and the security of every man's property was considered as lost by the British parliament claiming such a power. Petitions, remonstrances, and addresses were transmitted to England, couched in the most respectful terms of allegiance, expressive of their carnest withes to be allowed to levy money for the uses of government by their respective provincial assemblies, and not by taxes levied in an assembly to which they sent no representatives, and in which they had no weight of interest.

About the middle of December, 1773, some ships laden with tea being at Boston (as a duty was to be paid) the people would not suffer it to be landed. The thips being refused a clearance by the governor, unless the cargoes were landed, and properly disposed of, a mob, dressed like Mohawk Indians, entered the three ships which contained the tea, and emptied their cargous, consisting of three hundred and forty-two chests of tea, into the water. This and other outrages occasioned the Boston port bill, passed April 4, 1774, by which the town of Boston was pro-

feribed and blocked up. Much time was afterwards spent in fruitless negotiation; but in 1775 open hostilities commenced: the American congress declared the British settlements independent states, and the province of Georgia, acceding to the alliance, they assumed the title of the Thirteen United Colonies of America. They for iome 9 K

Great Britain, which was strengthened by a large body of Hefsians, the whole under the command of general Howe, whilit between eighty and ninety frigates of different sizes were stationed along the coast, and some ships of the line rendezvoused at New York.

The first blood that was drawn in this unhappy quarrel was in a skirmish at Lexington, about three miles from the town of Cambridge, in the year 1775, when the king's troops were driven back to Boston with considerable loss. The next action was that of Bunker's Hill, in the same year, when the British troops had upwards of one thousand men killed and wounded; among the former was more than a proportionable number of officers.

In 1776, Sir William Howe made a descent on Long Island, which he subdued, and which the king's troops retained pos-

session of till the conclusion of the war.

In October, 1777, a combined army of British and Hessians, amounting to three thousand five hundred men, surrendered prisoners of war to the Americans under general Gates at Saratoga, a small fort situated about fifty miles north of Albany, on the east side of Hudson's river.

Early in 1778, these newly erected states entered into a treaty of commerce, and another of defensive alliance with the French king, who thereby acknowledged their claim of independence.

The war was prosecuted with various success till October, 1781, when the British army, under lord Cornwallis, being in want of necessaries, much harrassed by fatigue, weakened even by victories, and reduced to the small number of three thousand five hundred effective men that were fit for duty, were obliged to furrender on the 30th of the same month to the arms of France and America. This proved a fatal stroke to the British arms and interest in America, and cast such a gloom over the state of affairs in that quarter of the world, as to occasion an address, petition and remonstrance from the city of London, requesting his majesty "to relinquish entirely, and for ever, the plan of reducing their American brethren by force." This was succeeded by a vote of the house of commons on February 27, 1782, for an address to his majesty to the same effect; the prayer of which was complied with, and his majesty was empowered by parliament to conclude a peace with the revolted colonies.

Accordingly, at the ensuing sellions, on the 5th of December in the same year, his majesty, in a speech delivered from the throne, announced the offer he had made, to declare America independent, and that provisional articles were agreed upon; which being figned on the part of France, were followed by the preliminaries of a peace between Great Britain, France and Spain, dated January 20, 1783, and on the 14th of February next ensuing, a cessation of hostilities was declared between all the belligerent powers. By the treaty of peace proposed to be concluded between the crown of Great Britain and America, "his Britannic majelty acknowledges the United States, viz. New Hampshire, Massachuset's Bay, Rhode Island, and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia, to be free, fovereign, and independent slates; treats with them as such; and for himself, his heirs, and fuccessors, relinquishes all claim to the government, propriety, and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof. The United States are also by the said treaty allowed to take fish on the Banks of Newfoundland, the gulf of St. Lawrence, &c. as heretofore. Though America rejected the idea of a separate peace, she acceded to the terms which admitted her independency, whereby the antient and valuable colonies were dillevered from Britain for ever. Such was the ever-to-beregretted conclusion of this unfortunate contest, that cost to much blood and treasure to these kingdoms. A judicious writer observes, that the American debt makes forty millions of dollars, at four shillings and sixpence each, being nine millions four hundred and fifty thousand pounds; the annual interest of which, at fix percent, is five hundred and forty-three thousand fix hundred pounds; so that the Americans have obtained their purpose of independence, and gone through the whole seven years war for about one half the sum of money that one year of the same war cost England.

S E C T. III.

Containing Descriptions of OLD and NEW MEXICO, CALI-FORNIA, LOUISIANA, and EAST and WEST FLORIDA; their Situation, Boundaries, Extent, Climate, Produce, Inhabitants, &c.

Spain, was once a mighty empire, ruled by its own monarchs, till the Spaniards, by whom it was first discovered in 1598, afterwards conquered it under the command of Fernando Cortez. It lies between seven degrees thirty minutes, and thirty degrees forty minutes north latitude, is two thousand miles long, six hundred broad where widest, has the isthmus of Darien

on the fouth, New Mexico on the north, the gulf of Mexico on the east, and the ocean on the west. It is divided into the audiences of Guadalajara, Mexico and Guatimala, and is governed by a viceroy.

Mexico, confidering its fituation in the torrid zone, enjoys a temperate air. The rainy featon begins at the latter end of April, and continues till September, being preceded by terrible florms, which are so variegated, that the wind blows from almost every point of the hereens, increasing daily in fury till the month of June, at which time the rain falls as if a second de-

luge were to enfue.

No country under heaven abounds more with grain, delicious fruits, roots, and vegetables; many of which are peculiar to it, or at least to America. Of these the most remarkable are, baniboos, mangroves, and logwood, which grow on the coalls; red and white cotton trees, cedars, blood wood, and maho, of which the natives make ropes and cables; light wood, of which they make floats, being as light as cork; whitewood, the cabbage tree, the calabath, cacao, and venella, which the Spaniards call besuco or bainilla; plantains, bananas, pine-apples, sapadillo, avogato pear, mammee, mammee-sapota, grape, prickle, babby, and other curious fruit trees; besides which the Spaniards have introduced most of the European fruits. This country also produces the poisonous manchineel apple, gourds of a prodigious size, melons, silk grass, tamarinds, and locust trees, the little black, white, and borachio sapotoe trees, the last of which takes its name from the incbriating quality of the fruit. Here are also the grenadillo de chine, creeping plant, and the may-hev, which furnithes the natives with thread for linen and cordage; and also a balsam and liquor, which, when fermented, is as pleasant and strong as wine; a strong liquor, not unlike brandy, is also distilled from this.

There is also found in Mexico balsam of Peru, guaiacum, china root, sarsaparilla, and the root mechoacan, which are well known to druggitts and apothecaries, and of excellent use in a variety of diffempers. Other valuable productions of New Spain are, copal, aninie, tacamahaca, caranica, liquid amber, and oil of amber. Besides the maiz or native grain of Mexico, the Spaniards have introduced the use of barley, wheat, peas,

beans, and other grain.

The beafts, birds, insects, reptiles, &c. are much the same as in Peru.

On the western coast of New Spain, near the Pacistic Occan, are some high mountains, most of which are said to be volcanoes. Several rivers rise in these mountains, and fall, some into the gulf of Mexico, and some into the South Sea, en both of which there are several capes and bays. The bays of Campea-

chy and Honduras are among those on the gulph.

In the rocky, barren parts of the country are the gold and filver mines. There are, it is faid, feveral of the former, and no fewer than one thousand of the latter. Gold is also found in grains or dust in the sands of rivers and torrents. Whoever discovers a mine of gold or silver, is at liberty to work it, paying the king a tenth of the product, and limiting himself within sifty yards round the place upon which he has sixed. All the silver and gold dug, or found in grains, is entered in the royal exchequer; and it is reported, that notwithstanding great quantities are run and concealed, no less than two millions of silver marks, weighing eight ounces each, are entered yearly, out of which they coin seven hundred thousand marks into pieces of eight, quarter pieces, ryals, and half pieces, the latter being about three-pence sterling value.

Their chief commodities are gold and silver, exquisite marble, porphyry, jasper, precious siones, pearls, amber, git.ger, tobacco, hides, tallow, falt, dying woods, drugs, ballams, honey, feathers, chocolate, cochineal, filk, fugar, cotton, wool. The whole of the trade between Old Spain and the Spanish American dominions, is by means of a fleet, called the Flota, which is fitted out at Cadiz, and destined to La Vera Cruz. The ships are not permitted to break bulk, on any account, till they arrive there. When all the goods are landed and disposed of at La Vera Cruz, the fleet takes in the plate, precious flones, cochineal, indigo, cocoa, tobacco, sugar, and hides, which are the returns for Old Spain. From La Vera Cruz they fail to the Havannah, which is the place of their rendezious, where they meet the galleons. There is another fleet, which carries on all the trade of Terra Firma by Carthagena, and of Penn by Panama and Porto Bello, in the same manner as the Flota serves for New Spain. When the flota arrives at the Havannah, and joins the galleons and register ships, which assemble at the fame port from all quarters, some of the cleanest and best failing veilels are dispatched to Old Spain with advice of the contents of these several fleets, as well as with treasure and goods of their own, that the court may judge what convoy is necessity for their safety, and what indulto or duty is proper to be laid on them.

The merchants at Cadiz and Seville send out register ships, when



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when they studge that goods must be wanted at any particular ports in the West-Indies. Their way is, to petition the council of the Indies for a licence to send a ship of three hundred tons burden or under, to that port: they pay for this licence forty or sitty dollars, besides presents to the officers, in proportion to the consistence necessary for the design; for though the licence runs only to three hundred tons at most, the vessel fitted out is seldom less than six hundred. This ship and cargo are registered at the pretend d burden: it is required too, that a certificate be brought from the king's officer at the port to which she is bound, that the does not exceed the fize at which she is registered. The trade of Spanish America has been carried on for some years past by the textilels, called register ships.

The millab tents of this country are at prefent a mixed people, confining of 1 at ans, Spaniards, and other Europeans; and the Creol s, Medichos, or ifficial the Spaniards by Americans; the Mertiches, or the ratio of fuch ratio; the Terceroons dez Indies, or the children of the last, married to Spaniards; and the Quarteroons dez Indies, whose descendants are allowed the same privileges as true Spaniards. The negroes are likewise pretty numerous, being imported from the coast of Africa for various purposes, and many of them admitted to their freedom. The islue of an European and an gro constitutes another diffinction, called Mulatto; besides which, there is a mixed breed of negroes and Indians, which is generally deemed the lowest rank.

Some tribes of Indians, both in the open country and the mountains, still preserve their freedom; but most of them are subject to the Spaniards, and have embraced the popish religion. Among the free Indians are those on the Musquito shore, where the English have some settlements, and a governor; these Indians being implacable enemies to the Spaniards, but sirm sriends

and allies to the English.

The native Indians are in general tall, clean, well proportioned, and handfome: their complexion is a deep olive, and both sexes have long, black, lank, coarse hair on their heads; but they fuffer none on the other parts of their bodies: some tribes effeem flat nofes as a great beauty. Almost all the Mexicans paint their bodies with the figures of various birds and healts, and anoint them with oil or fat. Some vibes are cloathed; but the men of others go almost naked. The Mexicans, in general, have their nofes, lips, cars, necks, and arms, adorned with pearls, and other jewels or trinkets, made of gold, filver, or some other metal. The free Indians are said to be a brave, generous, humane people, except in the article of humane facrifices; but the others are become cruel, treacherous, cowardly, mean, thievith, and altogether vicious. Belides all the domestic offices, the women spin, weave, and drefs cotton and linen cloths, for their own and their huibands apparel. Though the free Indians difcover a great veneration for the fun and moon, they have no image of them, but a great many of human form. They cultivate but little foil, and live chiefly by hunting and

With r foed to the Spaniards of Mexico, we are told, that the clergy, both fecular and regular, rival the quality in their dreis and luxurous way of living: they drink, game, fwear, wench, and make a jet of their vows of poverty, many of them getting money enough to return to Old Spain, and purchase bidiopries. A priest, who has but an ordinary cure in Mexico, frequently lays up ten or twelve thousand crowns in ten years; is able to live plentifelly all the time, while he is highly reverenced by the common people. The laity are represented to be an extremely bigotted and lewed people; a present to the church wipes off the odium of the greatest crimes; and the people are instructed in their religion here by plays and theatrical entertain-

ments in the churches, as in old Spain.

The principal places are, 1. Michico, which stands in the middle of a greatlake of its own name, let latitude nineteen degrees forvis inntes; about one hundred and feventy miles well of the gull of Mexico. This city, in point of regularity, excold-all others in the universe; the threets being so strait, and exactly deposed, that from any pare, the whole is vulble. The want of gates, walls, and artiflery, together with the five great cause-way, had ag to the city, renders Mexico extremely remuch able. All the buildings are convenient; but the public ed fices, especially the churches and convents, ose magnificent. In income of the grand cathedral amounts to near eighty thoufand pound, fierling per amoura, out of which the archbithop has file en thouland pounds, belides vast sums arding from perqualities. The number of the inhabitants is computed at three lumdred thousand, who are said to draw annually from the mines above ten millions of money, without reckoning the vaft fums fecreted, in order to defraud the king of his rights; yet, with thefeelmost incredible treasures, the people may be reckoned poor, as most of them live beyond their fortunes, and terminate a life of profusion in the most wretched indigence. A prodigious quantity of jewels, gold and filver plate, and toys, regether with the most valuable commodities of Europe and Alia, are exposed to fale in the fluctis.

2. The town of Acapulco is fituated about two hundred and ten miles fouth-east from Mexico, in seventeen degrees north latitude on a bay of the South Sea. The haven is large and commodious, and the entrance fecured by a flat illand running across, at each end of which is a deep channel, sufficiently broad for the greatest vessels. The only inconvenience is, that thips must enter by the sea-wind, and go out by the land-breeze, which feldom fail to forceed each other alternately, so that they are frequently blown off to fea, after repeated attempts to make the harbour. The town is large, but ill built; a part of it confifts of warehouses. Duri, g the fair, after the arrival of the Lima and Manilla ships, the town is so excessively crowded, that great numbers are obliged to pitch tents in the neighbourhood for their accommodation. It is supposed that the Manilla galleon carries off from Acapulco at least ten millions of dollars, in return for the goods the brings thither, and for the payment of the Spanish garrisons in the Philippine itles. The climate here is unhealthy, and the earthquakes very common.

The town of Vera Cruz, or Ulva, stands near the guif of Mexico, about seventy leagues from the capital. It is very strong, both by nature and art, being the great mart of all the Spanish trade in the north sea, and has a sale commodious harbour. Few Spaniards of distinction reside here, on account of

the infalubrity of the air.

The province of New Mexico, including California, is two thousand miles long, and one thousand fix hundred broad; it is bounded on the east by Louitiana, on the south by New Spain, on the west by the gulf of California, and on the north by high mountains. This country, though pleasant and healthy, is but little cultivated, and thinly inhabited. It has several rivers, many ports and creeks; and the Indian tribes, who inhabit it, live distinct from each other. Many of the natives are Christians.

The town of Santa Fé ilands near the source of Rio del Norte, in thirty-six degrees north latitude, and about one hund, ed and thirty leagues from the gulf: it is a well built, handson, rich town, and the sear of a bithop, suffragan of Mexico, as well as of the governor of the province, who is subordinate to

the viceroy of Mexico.

The peninfula of California, the most northern of all the Spanish dominions on the continent of America, extends from the north coasts of America into the Pacific ocean eight hundred miles from cape Sebastian, in forty-three degrees thirty minutes north latitude, towards the fouth-east as far as cape St. Lucar, in twenty-two degrees thirty-two minutes north latitude. The castern coast lies nearly parallel with that of Mexico, opposite to it, and the sea between is called the lake or gulf of California. Its breadth is very unequal; towards the north it is near two hundred miles, but at the south extremity it tapers away, and is searcely fifty miles over. The more southern part was known to the Spaniards soon after the discovery of Mexico; for Cortez discovered it in 1535; but they did not till lately penetrate far into it, contenting themselves with the pearlishery there.

Several kinds of fruit are produced here; there are two species of deer peculiar to this country; aifo a particular breed of sheep, buffaloes, beavers, or animals much resembling them; a peculiar species of wild dogs, lions, wild cats, and many other wild builds. The horfes, mules, ailes, oxen, sheep, hogs, goats, and other quadrupeds that have been imported hither from Spain and Mexico, multiply exceedingly. Of the two species of deer peculiar to California, that called taye by the natives is greatly effeemed, and its flesh as well tasted as venison. The coast is plentifully stocked with peacocks, bustards, geese, cranes, vultures, gulls, cormorants, mews, quails, linnets, larks, nightingales, and many other species of birds. There is also a great multitude and variety of fifth in the gulf of California, the Pacific ocean, and the rivers. Though infects swarm here, as in most hot countries, yet on account of the dryness of the soil and climate, they are neither noxious nor troublesome. There is one of the richell pearl fitheries in the world on the coall of California, and there are supposed to be mines in the country.

In California are two confideral le rivers, namely, Rio Collorado, and Rio du Carmel, with feveral smaller streams, and fine ports, bays, creeks, and roads, both on the east and west side, which is the reason of its having been so much frequented by the English privateers. There are, in the heart of the country, plains of falt quite sirm, and clear as crystal.

A great variety of favage tribes inhabit California. Those that live on the east fide of the peninsula are great enemies to the Spaniards; but, in the other parts, they seem to be very hospitable to all strangers. The inland country, especially towards the north, is populous. The Indians resemble those described in other parts of America. Their boats are only rafts, &c. Their arms are, bows, arrows, and jagged clubs. They have a great many absurd, ridiculous customs, opinions, and superstitions. They go almost naked, and pay great deference

rence to their priests, who pretend to be magicians and physicians. All their houshold furniture and property consists of the implements used in fishing, hunting, or war, in which most of their time is spent.

The province of Louisiana is bounded by the Missisppi on the west, and by East Florida, Georgia and Carolina on the east, and extends from the lake of the Illinois, or rather from the source of the Mississppi on the north, to the gulph of Mex-

ico on the fouth.

This is a very pleasant fruitful country, being watered by a number of rivers, the frequent overflowings of which contribute not a little to its fertility. Nothing is more delightful than the meadows, which are fit for seed of all kinds. In some parts the soil yields three or sour crops in the year; for the winter consists only in heavy rains, without any nipping frosts. Almost all sorts of the trees of Europe are to be found here, besides a variety of others unknown to us, and some of them of great value, as lofty cedars, that distil a gum, which is said to excel all the noblest European persumes; and cotton trees, which are of a prodigious height. The whole country abounds with a great variety of game, sowl, cattle, and other useful creatures and productions.

The town of New Orleans is situated between the eastern shore of the Mississippi and the Fish river, near the lakes Pontchastrain and Maurepas, and about eighteen leagues from the sea. It is a pretty large handsome town, but subject to most ruinous inundations; besides, the navigation between it and the sea is so very difficult, that none but small vessels and slatbottomed boats can get up to it, there being a shelf that lies between the mouth of the river, where there is not above ten feet water. It is said that the channel of it is twice as large as that of the Seine, keeping the same breadth all along, and that

the stream is rapid.

Louisiana was ceded to the English in 1763, but as it constitutes the greatest part of the government of West Florida, which, by the treaty of 1783, the Spaniards are to retain; this country is consequently now subject to the crown of Spain.

The last countries we are to describe on this continent are East and West Florida, which are fivehundred miles in length, four hundred and forty in breadth; having the gulf of Mexico to the south, the Apalachian mountains and great lakes to the north, Georgia to the east, and the Atlantic ocean to the west. Florida was first discovered by Cabot, a Venetian mariner in the service of England. It had its name from its verdure,

being certainly a very fine country.

The air is wholesome, as evidently appears from the size, vigour, and longevity of the Floridan Indians, in all which respects they far exceed the Mexicans. The soil, except on the sea coast, is rich and sertile, producing frequently two or three crops of Indian corn in the year; and might, with proper cultivation, be brought to bear every sort of grain. Here are all kinds of timber and fruit trees, especially pines, laurels, palms, cedar, cypress, and chesnut trees, which grow to an extraordinary length and size, and, with the oaks, afford nourishment to swine; but the wood most prized, and in greatest plenty, is the sa saferas, of which considerable quantities are exported. Excellent limes and prunes also grow here in great abundance, with vines of various sorts, and cotton trees, hemp, slax, pulse, roots, and herbs; game, sowl, and sish, are also very plentiful. The root mendihoca, of which the cassavashour and bread are

made, is very common; and there is a kind of grain, like our oats, that shoots up spontaneously in marshy places, and by the sides of rivers. Here is a fruit called tuna, so exquisite and wholsome when ripe, that among the Europeans it goes by the name of the ardial julep. Excellent beef, veal, and mutton, are the produce of the country, together with horses sit for draught and carriage, so cheap, that they may be purchased for the value of a crown in European commodities. The other products of Florida are ambergris, cochineal, indigo, silk grass, amethysis, turquoises, lapitlazuli, and other precious stones; copper, quicksilver, pit-cool, iron ore, and a kind of stone pitch called copea, which the Spaniards used as tar for their shipping: on the coast pearls are also found.

The most considerable mountains are the Apalachian, which divide Carolina and the other American plantations from Florida. A vast number of noble rivers interfest this country, most of which rise in the mountains above-mentioned, and fall into the gulf of Mexico, or the Atlantic ocean: the chief are the Mississippi, Ohio, Coza, or Cousia, and the river St. John. The Mississippi, which the French call St. Louis, is in many respects the finest river in the world. It runs a very long course, is navigable within sixty leagues of its source, and

free from shoals and cataracts.

The principal European settlement in East Florida is St. Augustine, standing on the eastern coast of the peninsula, about seventy leagues from the gulf of Florida and channel of Bahama, thirty south of the river Alatamaha, or Alatamacha, and forty-seven from the town and river of Savannah. It is situated in latitude thirty north, and lies along the shore at the bottom of a hill, in the form of a parallelogram, the streets cutting each other at right angles. The port is formed by an island and a long point of land, almost divided from the continent by a river, which falls into the sea two miles south of the town. The entrance into the port lies between the island and the point of land, and is about one mile and a quarter over, but very shallow, as is indeed most part of the coast of Florida. About a mile to the northward of the town stands the castle, defended by four bastions, and is pretty strong.

St. Matthio is the next place to St. Augustine, being situated fifteen leagues to the north of it towards Georgia. Mr. Rolles, a member of the British parliament, had a settlement on the river St. John; and at Mosquito harbour, not far from the channel of Bahama, another settlement was formerly established

here by one Dr. Trummel.

Mobille and Pensacola were the chief places belonging to the English in East Florida and Pensacola. The first is but a small place, lying on the river of that name, about one hundred miles from its mouth, and seventy from the Millillippi. Pensacola, stands on the west side of the bay to which it gives name, about ten leagues from Dauphin ille, at the mouth of the river Mobille. The harbour is the best upon all this coast of the gulf, being large, safe from all winds, with four fathom water at the entrance, and seven or eight farther in. A fine river enters the bay on the east side of the harbour, which comes about one hundred miles out of the country, after being formed by the junction of two other rivers. The town is not confiderable at present; but it is probable, that from the commodiou ness of its situation and harbour, it will soon make a better figure, if the Spaniards, to whom both the Floridas were given up by the peace of 1783, are not too indolent to improve them.

C H A P. III.

THE NEW HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION OF THE ISLANDS IN THE

WEST INDIES AND AMERICA.


S E C T. I.

General Description of the WEST INDIAN ISLANDS, with an Account of their Situation, Climate, Produce, and Commodities, Plantations, Negroes, Trade, &c.

THESE illands, which are situated between the two continents of America, now belong to Great Britain, Spain, France, Holland, and Denmark. They lie in the form of a bow, or semicircle, stretching almost from the coast of Florida north, to the river Oroonoko, in the main continent of South America. Some call them the Caribbees from the sirst inhabitants, though this term is generally confined to the Leeward Itlands. The geographical maps and tables distinguish them

by the names of Great and Little Antilles; and sailors by those of the Windward and Leeward, with regard to the usual courses of thips from Old Spain, or the Canaries, to Carthagena or New Spain, and Porto Bello.

The West India islands in general have nearly the same climate, allowing for those accidental differences which the several situations and qualities of the landsthemselves produce. As they lie within the Tropics, and that the sun goes quite over their heads, passing beyond them to the north, and never returning surther from any of them than about thirty degrees to the south, they are continually subjected to the extreme of an heat, which would be intolerable, if the trade wind, rising gradually as the sun gathers strength, did not blow in upon





them from the sea, and refresh the air in such a manner, as to enable them to sollow their necessary occupations even under the meridian sun. On the other hand, as the night advances, a breeze begins to be perceived, which blows smartly from the land, as it were from its centre, towards the sea, to all points

of the compals at once.

By the same remarkable providence in the disposal of things, it is, that when the sun has made a great progress towards the tropic of Cancer, and becomes in a manner vertical, he draws after him such a vast body of clouds as shield them from his direct beams; and, disloving into rain, cool the air, and resresh the country, thirsty with the long drought, which generally continues from the beginning of January till near the month of June. But though these rains conduce to moderate the excessive heat, yet they produce great inconveniences, owing to the amazing violence with which they fall. They are rather shoods of water poured from the clouds with a prodigious impetuosity: the rivers rise in a moment; new rivers and lakes are formed, and in a short time all the low country is under water. Hence the rivers, which have their source within the tropics, swell and overslow their banks at a certain season.

When storms of that kind happen, they are very violent, and the hail-stones are exceedingly large and heavy. The rains make the only distinction of seasons in the West-Indies: the trees are continually green; they have no cold, frost, or snow, and seldom any hail. But in the rainy season they are exposed to hurricanes, the most terrible calamity by which the inhabitants of these islands are assaulted. One of these destroys at a stroke the labours of many years, and extinguishes the most exalted hopes of the planter. It is a sudden and violent storm of wind, rain, thunder, and lightning, attended with a surious swelling of the seas, and sometimes with an earthquake; in short, with every circumstance which the elements can assemble

in the quarters, or a, the full change of the moon.

Sugar is the grand staple commodity here; this useful article was not at all known to the Greeks and Romans, though it was made in China in very early times, from whence we had the first knowledge of it: but the Portuguese were the first who cultivated it in America, and brought it into request, as one of the materials of a very universal luxury in Europe. It is not settled whether the cane, from which this substance is extracted, be a native of America, or brought hither by the Portuguese, from India and the coast of Africa; but be that as it may, in the beginning they made the most, as they still do the best, sugar which comes to market in this part of the world.

that is terrible and destructive. A hurricane comes on either

The juice within the sugar cane is the most lively, elegant, and least-cloying sweet in nature: and which, sucked raw, has proved extremely nutritive and wholsome. Rum is distilled from the molasses; and a meaner spirit is procured from the scummings of the sugar. Rum finds its market in North America (where it is consumed by the English inhabitants, or employed in the Indian trade, or distributed from thence to the suspense in Newsoundland, and the African commerce); besides what comes to Great Britain and Ireland. However, a very great quantity of molasses is taken off raw, and carried to New England, to be distilled there. No part of this excellent plant is without its use, for the tops of the cane, and the leaves which grow upon the joints, make very good provender for their cattle; and the resuse of the cane, after grinding, serves tor sire.

The expences of a plantation in the Welt Indies are very great; and the profits, at the first view, precarious; for the chargeable articles of the wind-mill, the boiling, cooling, and dittilling-houses, and the buying and sublisting a suitable number of slaves and cattle will not suffer any man to begin a sugar plantation of any consequence, not to mention the purchase of the land, which is very high, under a capital of at least five thousand pounds. Neither is the life of a planter, if he means to acquire a fortune, a life of idleness and luxury: he must at all times keep a watchful eye upon his overseers, and himself must even oversee occasionally. But, at the boiling-season, if he is properly attentive to his affairs, no way of life can be more laborious, and more dangerous to the health, from a constant attendance day and night, in the extreme united heats of the climate and so many herce furnaces; add to this, the losses by hurricanes, earthquakes, and bad scasons; and then consider, when the sugars are in the casks, that he quits the hazard of a planter, to engage in the hazards of a merchant, and thips his produce at his own risk. These considerations might make one believe that it could never answer to engage in this business; but notwithstanding all this, there are no parts of the world, in which great estates are made in so short a time, as in the West-Indies. The produce of a few good seasons generally provides against the ill effects of the worst, as the planter is sure of a speedy and profitable market for his produce, which has a readier sale than perhaps any other commodity in the world. It has been computed, that, under good management, the rum

and molasses pay the charges of the plantation, and the sugars are clear gain.

Planters support their negroes at a very easy rate. They generally allow to each family of them a small portion of land; and permit them, two days in the week, Saturday and Sunday, to cultivate it. Some are subsissed in this manner; but others provide their negroes with a certain portion of Guinea and Indian corn, and to some a salt herring, or a small portion of bacon or falt pork a day. All the rest of the charge consists in a cap, a shirt, a pair of breeches, stockings, and shoes, the whole not exceeding forty shillings a year, and the profit of their labor yields ten or twelve pounds. The price of men negroes, upon their first arrival, is from thirty-three to thirty-six pounds; women and grown boys about fifty shillings less; but such negro families as are acquainted with the business of the islands, generally bring about forty pounds upon an average one with another; and there have been instances of a single negro-man, expert in business, bringing one hundred and fifty guineas; and the number of flaves a planter possesses, generally ascertains his wealth.

Though the traders in general make a very large profit upon all they fell, yet from the numerous shipping constantly arriving from Europe, and a continual succession of new adventurers, the West India market is frequently overstocked; so that goods are sometimes sold at prime cost or under: but they who can afford to store their goods, and wait for a better market, acquire fortunes equal to any of the planters. Physicians and surgeons even outdo the planter and merchant in accumulating riches. All kinds of handicrastsmen, especially carpenters, bricklayers, braziers, and coopers, also meet with great encouragement.

S E C T. II.

Giving a particular Description of the Islands of JAMAICA and BARBADOES, their Extent, Climate, Soil, Produce, Inhahitants, &c.

PREVIOUS to an account at large of the West Indian and American Islands, we shall present our readers with the following table, exhibiting, at one view, the chief of them, with their names, length, breadth, principal towns, and the nations to whom they respectively appertain.

WESTINDIAN ISLANDS.						
Islands.	Length.	Breadth.	Chief Towns.	Belonging to		
Jamaica	140	60	Kingston	Great Britain		
Barbadoes	21	14	Bridgetown	Ditto		
St. Christopher's	20	7	Baffeterre	Ditto		
Antigua	20	20	St. John's	Ditto		
Nevis and	Each of these is 18		•	Ditto .		
Montserrat 5	miles in circumf.		Plymouth	Ditto		
Barbuda	20	12		Ditto		
Anguilla	30	I	<u> </u>	Ditto		
Dominica	28	13		Ditto		
St. Vincent	24	18	Kingston	Ditto		
Granada	30	15	St. George's	Ditto		
Tobago	32	9	·	France		
Cuba	700	70	Havannah	Spain		
Hispaniola	450	150	St. Domingo	Do. & France		
Porto Rico	100	40	Porto Rico	Spain		
Trinidad	90	60		Ditto		
Margarita	40	2.4		Ditto		
Martinico	60	30	St. Pierre	France		
Guadalupe	45	38	Basseterre	Ditto		
St. Lucia	23	12		Ditto		
St. Bartholomew]	All of them in-		·	Ditto		
Descada	considerable.			Ditto		
Marigalante				Ditto		
St. Eustatia	29 cir	cunit.	The Bay	Dutch		
Curaffao	30	10				
St. Thomas	15 circu	umt.		Denmark		
St. Croix	३०	10	Basse End	Ditto		
AMERICAN ISLANDS.						
Newfoundland	350	200	Placentia	Great Britain		
Cape Breton	100	80	Louisbourg	Ditto		
St. John's	60	30	Charlotte town	Ditto		
The Bermudas	20,000 acres		St. George.	Ditto		
The Bahamas	Very numerous.		Naffau	Ditto		
Falklands						
Juan Fernandes	14	6	Uninhabited.			
Fuera			Ditto			
Chiloe	12	17	Castio			
	مهام والكارات ويسهم المساومات مبينة والمساوية					

The illand of Jamaica was discovered by Columbus, anno 1494, in his second voyage to the West Indies: he changed the name Jamaica to St. Jago. The Spaniards possessed it till the time of Oliver Cromwell, who, being lentible of the advantages that nation obtained by their policilions in America, sent a considerable squadron of men of war, commanded by the generals Penn and Venables, in 1654, to take the fine illand of Hispaniola. But being repulsed in that attempt, they bent their forces against Jamaica, which they made themselves matters of with little loss. Since this time it has been in the hands of the

English, and recovered its old appellation.

This is the largest of all the British illand colonies, and even of any of the rest, except Cuba and Hispaniola. It extends from seventy-five degrees fifty-seven minutes, to seventy-eight degrees thirty-seven minutes west longitude, and from seventeen degrees forty-eight minutes to eighteen degrees fifty minutes north latitude. It is about one hundred and forty miles in length, and fixty in breadth, where broadest; but being of an oval form, it grows nairower at each end. It is situated about thirty-six leagues to the south of Cuba, and thirty-nine leagues th the west of St. Domingo: these two large islands defend it from the winds which desolate the Atlantic, whilst the number and disposition of its harbours put it into a condition to carry on a great trade with either these and the other islands of the West Indian sea, or with the continent. Though this situation may expose it to the insults of its two powerful neighbours, it at the same time facilitates the entrance of the succours srequently afforded it from the mother-country. There are about sixteen principal harbours, besides thirty bays, roads, or good

anchoring-places.

Jamaica enjoys a pretty favourable climate, since there is nocountry between the tropics where the heat is more moderate, being constantly cooled with refreshing breezes, frequent rains, and nightly dews: it is, however, particularly unwholsome on the fea-coast, and excellively hot in the mornings all the year round, till about eight o'clock, when the sea-breeze begins, increasing gradually till about twelve, when it is commonly strongest, and lasts till two or three, when it begins to die away fill about five o'clock, at which time it is quite spent, and returns no more till the next morning. About eight in the evening begins a land-breeze, which blows four leagues into the sea, and continues increasing till twelve at night, after which it decreases till four in the morning, when it ceases, and returns again at night. The sea-breeze is stronger at some times than at others, and more so near the coast than within land; whereas it is just the reverse with the land-breeze. Sometimes the sea-breeze blows day and night for a week or two. In December, January, and February, the north wind blows furioully, checking the growth of the canes, and all other vegetables, on the north lide of the illand; but the mountains cover the fourth side from them. Though it often rains at other times, yet the months of May and October bring the heaviest and most lasting rains; and the east and west parts of the island, containing large tracts of inclosed ground, are more subject to storms of wind and rain, and more unwholesome, than the south and north. The fouth wind brings the most rain; no rains are lasting on the south side of the island, that come from the land. Frost and snow are never seen here; but sometimes large hail, especially on the mountains, where the air is always cooler than in the low lands. The land-wind blowing in the night, and the sea-breeze in the day-time, no ship can come into port but in the day-time, nor go out but soon after day-break. The dews here are so great within land, that the water drops from the leaves of the trees in the morning as if it rained; but in the plain or fandy places near the sea, there are seldom any logs.

There is a ridge of hills, called the Blue Mountains, that run through it from east to west; the tops of which are covered with different kinds of trees, particularly cedar, lignum vitæ, and mahogany, which render them equally pleasant and profitable to the inhabitants. Several fine rivers, well stored with fish, and navigable by canoes, take their rise from these mountains. A lower ridge runs parallel to the greater; and the vallies, or savannahs, are exceedingly level, without stones, fit for balture, and fruitful, when cleared of wood, especially on the fouth side of the island. After the rains, or seasons as they are called, the favannahs are very pleasant, and produce such quanfities of grass, that the inhabitants are sometimes forced to burn it; but they are quite parched and burnt up, after long

droughts.

Water is very scarce in some parts of this island, notwith-Randing the many rivers and lakes with which it abounds; and in others, it is so mixed with sand and sediment, as not to be se sor use, till purified for some days in earthen jars; and much éattle, in Inne years, perish sor want of water. Near the sea, as at Port Royal, the well water is brackith and unwholsome.

There are several salt springs in the island, which from a salt river, and several lakes. Though the soil is in general exceed. ingly fertile, yet it is thought not one fourth of the sugar-ground is cultivated; even the grounds lying near the rivers and the sea

being for the most part over-run with woods.

Sugar takes the precedence of the various productions in this island. The cane from whence it is extracted is a kind of reed. which rifes commonly about eight or nine feet, including the leaves growing out of the top; the most common thickness is from two to four inches. It requires a light, porous, and deep soil, and is usually cut at the end of eighteen months. Within twenty-four hours after the canes are cut down, they break them between two rollers of iron and copper, which are put in motion by a horizontal wheel turned by oxen or horses. The juice with which the inner part of the canes are filled, is received into a refervoir, from whence it is successively carried to several boilers, to reduce it into crystals. As soon as it is cold. they pour it into earthen vessels made in the shape of a cone: the base of the cone is open, its apex is pierced with a hole, through which they let the liquor run, which will not afford any crystals; this liquor is called treacle or molasses. After the draining, they have museovado, or rough sugar, which is greaty, brown, and soft. This sugar does not become white, sliming, and hard, till it is refined, which is generally done in Europe, though there are two refining houses at Kingston. The molasses are usually the twelfth part of the value of the sugar; a great deal of this article is confumed in the north of Europe and of America, where they supply the place of butter and sugar to the common people: the Americans use them to produce a fermentation, and they give an agreeable talte to a drink called pruss, which is nothing more than the infusion of the bark of a tree. A secret has likewise been discovered, to convert these molasses, by distillation, into a spirituous liquor called rum. The operation is performed by mixing one third of syrup with two thirds of water: when these two substances have sufficiently fermented, at the end of twelve or fifteen days they are put into a still, where the distillation is carried on with great facility. About one hundred thousand hogsheads of sugar, thirty thoufand puncheons of rum, and three hundred thousand gallons of molasses, are the annual exports of Jamaica, from the produce of the fugar-canes.

Pimento is the next most considerable production of Jamaica, since above three millions of pounds weight of it are exported every year. There are several kinds more or less strong, and more or less acrid. The tree which produces the kind of pimento known by the name of Jamaica pepper was not cultivated in regular plantations till 1663. It commonly grows on the mountains, and rifes above thirty feet high; it is very straight, and covered with a grey close thining bark; the leaves are in all respects like the laurel, and at the end of the branches grow the flowers, to which succeed berries a little larger than juniper: they are gathered green, and laid to dry in the fun, when they grow brown, and get that spicy sinell which has given to pimento the name of all-spice. It is of excellent use for removing crudi-

ties, and strengthening the stomach.

Ginger is also one of the productions of this island. This is the root of a sinal plant about eighteen or twenty inches high. It was greatly in vogue about the middle of the last century; but now it is only a secondary article of trade, especially since the confirmption of it in Germany and Russia has of late years greatly diminished. But this circumstance, however prejudicial, is not so severely felt as the almost total annihilation of two branches of culture of the first kind, namely, indigo and cacao. In 1672 Jamaica had fixty indigo plantations, which produced yearly fifty thousand pounds worth of indigo: they are now reduced to eight, and an injudicious parliamentary duty has nearly ruined this branch, which the French have almost entirely wrested from us. At the time above-mentioned, there were in this island fixty cacao walks in produce, and many new ones under cultivation; but having been some years afterwards all destroyed by a blast, they have never been since renewed, and there is hardly one left, though chocolate is in general use here.

The productions which promise to increase are cotton and coffee. The French, however, have maintained their superiority in the manner of shipping coffee for Europe, so as to preserve all its qualities and virtues. Jamaica exports annually eight hundred casks of coffee of three hundred pounds each; and one thousand bags of cotton, each weighing one hundred

and eighty pounds.

Jamaica produces, besides the articles already specified, a number of trees, shrubs, and useful plants, some of them natives of its soil, others brought from the other illands or the continent: among these we may distinguish the following 1. The mahogany, which is of great use in Europe; there was formerly a prodigious abundance on the shores, but now they

must go ten or twelve miles within land, and get nearer to the mountains, to find any; this distance rendering it more inconvenient and expensive to transport, the Jamaicans get a great deal from the coasts of Spanish America, not quite so good, but much cheaper than their own, which they send to Great Britain; in the year 1770 they exported to the value of fifty thoufand pounds sterling. 2. The filk cotton-tree, whose trunk is often eighty feet high to its branches, and twelve or fourteen feet in circumference; they make of it canous or periagas of twentyfive tons burden. 3. The dogwood, which does not yield to the English oak for hardness. 4. The bitterwood, much used by carpenters. 5. The bastard mammea, or wood of St. Mary, whose height and quality make it fit for building ships and houses, as well as the cedar, odoriferous and incorruptible: this besides, serves to cover and wainscot houses, to make pencils, &c. and is much used by cabinet makers. 6. The lignum-vitæ, excellent for joiners and turners: its gum, called guaiacum, is of excellent service in medicine.

They have also several trees that are useful in domestic œconomy; among which are, 1. The oil-tree, or Palma Christi, fifteen or sixteen feet high, and laden with nuts affording plenty of an oil which is of great use, as well as that of the palm-tree; this last is much esteemed by the negroes. 2. The cacao-tree and date-tree produce fruits both cooling and nutritive. 3. The cabbage-tree, a beautiful tree whose stein grows to a prodigious height, some having been seen one hundred feet high; and produces at the top a substance which has the appearance and taste of a cabbage. 4. The tamarind-tree, whose fruit is well known; they procure a valuable varnish by incision from the tree; and might extract an useful oil from the nuts. 5. The alve or soap tree, which afford an excellent soap. 6. The red mangrove, and the black olive-tree, used in tanning of hides, and their bark is infinitely preferable to that of the oak for this purpose. 7. The machioreal; a remarkable tree: all the parts of it, leaves, juice and fruit, (the latter of which much resembles a crab-tree) are more or less poisonous. Here are likewise various forts of dying woods, gums, and medicinal drugs; among the latter are guaiacum, china-root, sarsaparilla, cassia, venellas, aloes, and the wild cinnamon-tree, which is esteemed of sovereign use for promoting digestion, and dispelling wind.

Tobacco is also produced here; but, being of a coarse kind, is cultivated only for the sake of the negroes, who are fond of it: they have also Indian and Guiney corn, with peas of various kinds, but none resembling those of Great Britain, except such as are reared with care and tenderness in gardens; likewise yams and potatoes, together with cabbages and a variety of roots, par-

ticularly callava, of which they make bread.

There are various kinds of berries in the woods; but apples, and those fruits that are more peculiar to cold countries, thrive but badly here. Their principal fruits are oranges, lemons, citrons, palms, pomegranates, shaddocks, momres, sour-sops, papao, melons, plantain, tamarinds, guavas, pine-apples, custard-apples, star-apples, prickly pears, and alicado pears.

There are but few cattle in this island, being chiefly supplied with beef from the British colonies on the continent; what they have are very small, and the flesh tough and lean. Their sheep, however, are large and fat, and their flesh very good; but the wool, which is long and full of hairs, is of little use. They have great plenty of hogs, and their flesh is exceeding sweet and delicious. Horses, asses, and mules, are very numerous: the former are small, mettlesome, and hardy; and generally sell for thirty or forty pounds sterling, when well made.

Fowls, both wild and tame, are found here in great variety, and particularly more parrots than in any of the other islands; besides parroquets, pelicans, snipes, teal, Guiney hens, geese,

ducks and turkies; the humming-bird, &c.

There is abundance of excellent fish in the bays and rivers; but the tortoise is by much the most valuable, both for its shell and fish, the latter being accounted the most delicious, and, at the same time, the most wholesome in all the Indies. The manatu, or sea-cow, which is often taken in calm bays, is reckoned extraordinary good eating by the Indians. The mountains breed numberless adders and other noxious animals, as the sens and marshes do the guana and gallewasp; but the latter are not poisonous.

In this island are many noxious infects, such as the cirer, or chegue, which eats into the nervous, and membranous parts of the sless of the sless of the negroes; and the white people are sometimes plagued with them. These infects get into any part of the body, but chiefly the legs and feet, where they breed in great numbers, and shut themselves up in a bag: they sometimes get into the toes, and eat the sless to the bones. As soon as the person seels them, which is not, perhaps, till a week after they have been in the body, they pick them out with a needle, or the point of a pen-knife, taking care to destroy the bag en-

tirely, that none of the breed, which are like nits, may be left behind.

The several sorts of inhabitants in Jamaica consist of English, or those of English extraction; Indians, negroes, mulattoes, or meltices, or the descendants of them. The better sort of the English wear wigs on Sundays, or particular days, and appear very gay in coats of silk, and vests trimmed with silver. At other times they generally wear only thread stockings, linen drawers, a vest, a Holland cap, and a hat upon it. Men servants wear a coarse linen frock, with buttons at the neck and hands, long trowsers of the same, and a check shirt. The negroes (except those that attend gentlemen, who dress them in their own livery) have once a year ofnaburghs and a blanket for cloathing, with a cap or handkerchiefs for the head. The morning habit of the ladies is a loose night-gown carelessly wrapped about them; and appear in a rich and becoming dress in the above town, when they put off their dishabille.

Persons in affluent circumstances commonly drink Madeira wine mixed with water. Ale and claret are extravagantly dear; and London porter sells for one shilling per bottle; but the general drink, especially among those of inserior rank, is rum punch, which they call kill-devil, because, being frequently drunk to excess, it heats the blood, and brings on severs, which in a short time send them to their graves, especially those who

are just come to the island.

Snakes and serpents, and cossi, a sort of worms, are eaten by the Indians and negroes. Besides the ordinary provisions, rats are sold here by the dozen, and, when they have bred among the sugar-canes, are thought, by some people, very delicious food.

The current coin here is entirely Spanish, English money being seldom seen. There is hardly any place where silver is more plentiful, or has a quicker circulation. The common rate of boarding is three pounds per week, notwithstanding provisions in general are tolerably reasonable; and a person cannot dine decently for less than a piece of eight.

Little regard is paid to learning here; and though some gentlemen, who are versed in literature, send their children to Great Britain, to acquire a polite and liberal education, yet the bulk of the people, being engaged in trade, or immersed in riotous dissi-

In Jamaica, and in all the British islands, the established religion is that of the church of England; but there are yet no bishops: the principal ecclesiastic in these islands is the bishop

of London's commissary.

The negroes in general are subject to great misery and hardships; and though the utmost care is taken to make them propagate, the ill-treatment they receive so shortens their lives, that instead of increasing by the course of nature, many thousands are annually imported, to supply the place of those who pine and die by the hardships they receive. Many of them are indeed stubborn and untractable, and must be kept under strict discipline; but they ought not to be crushed with the iron rod of tyranny, or be thought a fort of beasts without souls, as many of their overseers think them at present; though some of these tyrants are themselves the dregs of England, and the resuse of the jails of Europe. Many of the negroes, however, who fall into the hands of gentlemen of humanity, find their fituations easy and comfortable; and it has been observed, that in North America, where in general these wretches are better used, there is a less waste of negroes, who live longer, and increase by propagation.

On the first arrival of the slaves from the coast of Guiney, they are exposed to sale; are then generally very simple and innocent creatures; but they soon become roguish; and when they come to be punished for their faults, excuse themselves by the examples of the whites. They believe every negro returns to his native country after death. This thought is so agreeable, that it cheers their spirits, and renders the burden of life easy, which would otherwise to many be quite intolerable. When a negro is about to expire, his fellow-slaves kiss him, wish him a good journey, and send their hearty good wishes to their relations in Guiney. They make no lamentations; but, believing he is gone home and happy, inter his body with a great deal

The island of Jamaica is divided into three counties; viz. Surry, Middlesex, and Cornwall. These contain nineteen parishes, over each of which presides a magistrate called a custos. The greater part of the inhabitants are dispersed on their plantations, which form so many villages or hamlets, so that there

are but few towns in the island.

The capital of this island is St. Jago de la Vega, commonly called Spanish Town, in Middlesex. It is small, but pleasantly situated, and contains about sour thousand inhabitants; is the residence of the governor, of the courts of justice, and the place where the assembly is held. The principal building is the governor's

vernor's house, one of the handsomest in America: here are also a handsome church, a chapel, and a Jewish synagogue. The greater part of the inhabitants are persons of fashion and rank, which gives it an air of splendor and magnificence. Between this town and that of Kingston, in Fort Passage, a little village of fifteen houses, so called, because persons land or embark here,

who go from one town to the other land.

Kingston, in the county of Surry, is the most considerable town in the whole island, being the residence of the merchants, and the chief place for trade. It is a mile and a half long, and half a mile broad; all the streets, which are broad and regular, cross each other at right angles; they contain near one thousand seven hundred houses, exclusive of the habitations of the negroes, and the storehouses. Its inhabitants are estimated at eleven thousand, among whom are about five thousand whites, and one thousand two hundred free negroes or mulattoes; the rest consist of slaves. The Jews, who are very numerous here, have a fine synagogue. The houses are much more elegant than those of St. Jago de la Vega, but the air is not so healthy. The harbour of Kingston, seated at the bottom of a deep bay on the southern coast, will admit one thousand ships at a time, and those of two hundred tons come quite up to the quay.

The small town of Port Royal is situated upon the dry and fandy neck of land about three leagues long, that separates the harbour of Kingston from the sea: this was the richest and most considerable place in the island at the time of the Buccancers, whose disorders it cherished. Port Royal contained then two thousand houses, of which one thousand lix hundred were overturned or swallowed up by a remarkable earthquake that happened in 1692; they had rebuilt a great part of them, which were consumed by a fire in 1703. The excellence of the situation, engaged the people to rebuild them a second time, when a hurricane, in 1722, made them a heap of ruins; these were again raised, but asterwards destroyed, in 1744, by another hurricane; and on the third of October, 1780, another dreadful hurricane almost overwhelmed the little sea-port town of Savannah-la-Mar in Jamaica, and part of the adjacent country. Very few houses were left standing, and a great number of lives were lost: much damage was also done, and many people destroyed, in other parts of the illand.

The harbour joining to the bay of Kingston is very large and deep. On the extremity of the neck of land is Fort Charles, mounted with one hundred and twenty-six pieces of cannon, which, with the crossed fire of several other batteries, defend the

entrance of the harbour.

Public affairs in Jamaica are administered by a governor, who represents the king, a council of twelve, which form the upper house, and the forty-three representatives of the people who compose the lower house, and are chosen by the parishes. The whole income of the governor, in time of peace, amounts to five thousand pounds a year; the annual supply required from the colony may be about thirty thousand pounds, besides eight thousand pounds the amount of its revenue; and the total of all the taxes, both public and parochial, is never above fixty thousand pounds per annum.

The number of plantations and inhabitants of Jamaica is at present estimated as follows, viz. six hundred and eighty plantations of fugar, one hundred and ten cotton-works, one hundred pinicnto walks, thirty plantations of ginger, fifty breeding penns, six hundred polink and provision places, one hundred and fifty plantations of coffee, and eight indigo works; all which take up and employ fix hundred thousand acres, eighteen thousand whites, one hundred and seventy thousand blacks, and one hundred and thirty-six thousand horses, mules, or horned cattle. The above number of negroes requires a recruit of six

thousand every year.

Among the whites, who are all enrolled, and form a national committee, are reckoned eight or nine hundred Jews: these people may be said to have a country here, this being the only one where they have a right to bear arms in its defence; and they justified the considence of the legislature in an invasion made by the French, when they behaved with a great deal of courage. They also possess several estates, and carry on an extensive trade, especially with the Spaniards. Their sobriety and manner of living make them live to a greater age in Jamaica than the other whites.

It is computed that here are three thousand six hundred free mullattoes and negroes, who are incorporated in the national militia. Among the blacks are likewife included about nine hundred Maron negroes: these form a savage republic divided into six villages in the mountains: they are the descendants of runaway flaves, who have forced the government to acknowledge their independence. Their chiefs, distinguished by a medal hung to a silver chain, are under the inspection of a white, called the superintendant, without whose permission not one of the Marons can go out of his district. By the treaty concluded with them in 1739, they polless some lands, with their products; and they are obliged to march for a fixed falary. in case of an invasion, and also to restore sugntive slaves for a

premium.

The whole of the annual exports from Jamaica is reckoned, by a mean proportion, at one million three hundred and ten thousand pounds, while the total of the imports amount to one million and fifty four thousand pounds. It carries on a considerable commerce, not only with Great Britain and Ireland, but likewise with Africa, North and South America, the West India islands, and the Spanish main.

There are three small islands, dependent on this, called the Caymans, which lay to the north-west of Jamaica. The most foutherly is distinguished by the name of Great Cayman; the other two, which are distant from it about twenty leagues, are called Little Cayman, and Cayman Brack. Great Cayman. the only one that is constantly inhabited, is very low, and covered with high trees. It has not any harbour for ships of burden; only a tolerable anchoring-place on the fouth-west. The inhabitants, who amount to about one hundred and fixty, are descended from the old Buccaneers: they have given themselves a set of laws, and chuse a chief to see them executed, in conjunction with the justices of the peace appointed by commission from the governor of Jamaica. As they have no clergyman among them, they go to Jamaica to be married.

This little colony is, undoubtedly, the happiest in the West Indies; the climate and the kind of food, which are extremely falubrious, render the people healthy and vigorous, and cause them to live to a very advanced age. Their little illand produces plenty of corn and vegetables, hogs and poultry, much beyond what they consume: they have, besides, sugar canes, and some springs of pretty good water. Being quite inured to the sea, they are excellent pilots for the neighbouring coasts; and their island, as well as their activity and humanity, have been many times a relief to ships which were distressed in this part of the sea: their principal employment is fishing for turtle, which come to these islands, to deposit their eggs in the sands: a female lays about nine hundred. The inhabitants of Great Cayman carry on a great traffic with Port Royal in this article

of wholesome and delicious food.

II. Barbadoes, the casternmost of the Windward islands, is fituated in fifty-nine degrees west longitude, and thirteen degrees north latitude. It is twenty-five miles from north to south, and fifteen from east to west. Its superficial content is about one hundred and seventy thousand acres. This island was first reforted to by the English in the reign of James I. but the earl of Carlisse obtained the first grant of it in 1625, when he parcelled it out to several adventurers that transported themselves hither. They found no inhabitants, but a good breed of hogs, supposed to have been left here by the Spaniards and Portuguese, in their voyages to the continent of America. The adventurers applied themselves at first to the planting of tobacco, which not thriving as expected, they planted cotton and indigo, which yielded a considerable profit; but they made little sugar till 1647, when the colonels Modiford, Drax, and Walrond, with other cavaliers, living uneafy under the ulurpation, converted their eftates into money, and transported themselves to Barbadoes, where they erected sugar-works, and acquired very great possessions. In the year 1650 the white inhabitants of the island were increased to upwards of thirty thousand, with twice that number of negroes, who constantly perplexed their masters with conspiracies, in hopes of recovering their liberty; but not succeeding, they were severely punished. King Charles II. purchased the property of the island in 1661, ever since which time it has been a royal government; and for the purpose of maintaining the forces and fortifications of the illand, the colony granted a duty of four one-half per cent on their sugars.

During eight months in the year, the climate is hot, but not unwholesome; for though there are no land-breezes, others arise from the sea, which increase as the sun advances to, and abate as he declines from, the meridian. A temperate regimen renders it as safe to live in as any climate in Europe south of Britain; and, according to the opinion of many, as Britain itself. The days are nearly equal, the sun rising and setting about six all the year round. The rains fall here as in other parts of the torrid zone, chiefly when the sun is vertical. The damps or dews are so great in the night, that every bit of iron will soon be eaten up with rust, if it be not in constant use. The twilights are very short, it being dark three quarters of an hour after lun-set. They have sometimes violent hurricanes in autumn. On the tenth of October, 1780, a dreadful one occasioned vast devastation here, great numbers of the houses were destroyed, not one in the island being wholly free from damage, many persons were buried in the ruins of the houses and buildings, and great numbers were driven into the sea, and there perithed.

This is, for the most part, a plain level country, with some small hills; and the woods have been all cut down to make

room for the plantations of sugar canes, which now take up the greatest part of this valuable island. The soil varies, being in fome places fandy and light, in others rich, and in others spongy. The most valuable productions are, sugar, rum, molasses, ginger, indigo and cotton. The principal fruits are, pine-apples, guavas, plantains, oranges, lemons, citrons, limes, tamarinds, mangroves, prickled apples, figs, cacao and cocoa nuts, bullies, custard apples, papays, pomegranates, &c.. Here are few orchards or gardens; and they can procure Indian corn from North America cheaper than it could be sold for if of their own growth.

Here are abundance of hogs, which are much finer eating than those of England; oxen, cows, horses, apes, goats, monkies and racoons, with a few sheep and rabbets; but the mutton

is of an indifferent quality.

Tame pigeons, pullets, ducks, and poultry of all kinds, bred in Barbadoes, have a fine flavour, and are accounted more delicious than those of Europe. Here are also teals, curlews, plovers, inipes, wild pigeons, wild ducks, and a kind of bird called a man of war. Their snakes and scorpions never sting, and their insects, though numerous, have no poison.

Among other fish common here, they have the parrot fish, snappers, grey cavelloes, tarbums, coney-fish, and a green

turtle, which is a great delicacy.

In the center of this island there is said to be a bituminous spring, which emits a liquor like tar, and serves for the same ules as pitch or lamp oil. There are also two streams, or rivers, on each fide of it, wells of good water all over it, besides large

reservoirs for rain water.

Here are three classes of inhabitants, viz. the masters, the white servants, and negroes. The white servants lead more easy lives here than the day labourers in England; but the planter is generally more careful of his black servants than of the white, as the former, if not made free, are, with all their posterity, his perpetual property. Most of the negroes are employed in the field, but some of them work in the sugar mills and store-houses, while those of both sexes, who are most likely and hardy, are employed as menial fervants and housemaids.

The negroes subsist chiefly on plantains; but they have every week, at stated times, an allowance of Indian corn, bread, salt fish, or salt pork. Every negro family has a cabbin, and adjoining to it a small piece of ground for a garden: the more industrious plant potatoes, yams, and other roots; they also rear live stock, which they are at liberty to eat, or convert into money. They are fond of rum and tobacco, and generally lay out their earnings and savings in fine cloaths and ornaments. The whites are computed at twenty thousand, but the negroes, mulat-

toes, and mestices slaves, at one hundred thousand.

A falary of two thousand pounds sterling is allowed to the governor, payable out of the four and half per cent. besides a third of all seizures. The council consists of twelve members, and the affembly of twenty-two, chosen yearly out of the several parithes, viz. two for each, by a majority of votes. Most of the civil officers are appointed by the governor, who also collates rectors to the parithes of the illands. The perquisites of them are very confiderable, and their stated salary about one hundred and fifty or two hundred pounds a year; but the rectory of St. Michael's in Bridge-town is Jupposed to be worth about eight hundred pounds a year. Here are some Jews and quakers, but very sew other diffenters. A surrogate of the bishop's appointment governs the church affairs.

The military establishment of Barbadoes is very respectable, confilling of lix regiments of foot, two of horse, and a troop called the troop of horse guards: they have also a good train of artillery, and leveral forts. The whole island is divided into five diffricts, and thefe again into eleven parishes. In each of the diffricts is a judge and five affiltants, who hold a court of common pleas every month, from January to September, and

the governor is arbitrator in cases of difficulty.

80.

Bridge town, the capital of the island, and the only place of note in it, is situated in Carlille bay, in the south-west part, and has the best or rather the only harbour in it. This is reckoned the finest and largest town in all the Caribbee islands, if not in all the English West India colonies, taking its name from a bridge in the call part of it, crected over the waters that come from the neighbouring marthes after rains: it is the feat of the governor, council and affembly, and also of the court of chancery. The governor's house is about a mile out of the town, which is not reckoned very healthy on account of the neighbouring marthes. There are several forts and batterries about the town and bay, the latter of which is large enough to contain five hundred fail, and has twenty fathom anchorage in very clear water, but it is extremely rocky. Here is a college, founded and liberally endowed by colonel Codrington for profellors in the several sciences. It is the only institution of the

kind in the West Indies, but it does not appear to be in a very

flourishing state.

A considerable trade is carried on from hence with Great Britain, North America and Africa, which is supposed to employ four hundred veilels of all burdens. The principal articles of exportation are, aloes, cotton, ginger, sugar, rum and molasses: it amounted, in 1770, to three hundred and eleven thousand pounds to Great Britain, one hundred and twenty thousand pounds to North America, and eleven thousand pounds to the other islands, the whole being upwards of four hundred and thirty thousand pounds sterling.

They import timber of various kinds, bread, flour, Indian corn, rice, tobacco, some salt beef and pork, fish, pulse, and other provisions from the northern colonies, slaves from the coast of Africa, wine from Madeira, Tercera and Fyal, as also some brandy, beef and pork from Ireland, salt from Curassao, osnaburghs, linen of all forts, broad cloth and kerfeys, silks and stuffs, red caps, stockings and shoes of all sorts, gloves and hats, millinery ware and perukes, laces, peas, beans and oats, strong beer, pale beer, pickles, candles, butter and cheese, iron ware for their sugar-works, leaden, brass and copper wares, powder and shot, and other articles.

III.

Containing a Survey of the Islands of St. CHRISTOPHER. ANTIGUA, NEVIS, MONTSERRAT, BARBUDA. ANGUILLA, DOMINICA, St. VINCENT, and GRA-NADA and the GRENADINES, with an Account of their Situation and Extent, Climate, Soil, Productions, Inhabitants. Commodities, Trade, &c.

HE island of St. Christopher, called also St. Kitt's, is L situated about fifteen leagues to the west of Antigua, and is about twenty miles in length, seven in breadth, and forty in compass. It was discovered by Columbus in his first voyage to America, and has given birth to all the English and French colonies in the West Indies. The two nations arrived there on the same day (in 1625) when they divided the island between them, agreeing, however, that hunting, fishing, as well as the mines and forests, should be in common. Three years after their settling, the Spaniards drove them away, but they soon returned, and continued to live in good understanding till 1666, when war being declared between England and France, St. Christopher's became at different intervals the theatre of bloodshed for half a century. The contest was; however, at length closed by the repulsion of the French in 1702, and the country being yielded to the crown of Great Britain by the treaty of Utrecht, all the French territory was fold for the public emolument.

The centre of this island is occupied by a great number of high and barren mountains, intersected by rocky precipices almost impassable, from many of which issue hot springs. Mount Misery, which seems to be a decayed volcano, whose head is hid in the clouds, is the highest of all these mountains, its perpendicular height being three thousand eleven hundred feet: at a certain distance it bears some resemblance to a man who carries another upon his back. The affemblage of these two mountains makes St. Kitt's appear to those who approach by sea like an huge mountain covered with wood, but as they come nearer, the coast and ascent grow easier, and they are cultivated

as high as the declivity will permit.

Considering the height of the country, the climate is not so hot as might be expected: the air is pure and healthy, but the illand is subject to frequent storms, hurricanes and carthquakes. The soil is in general light and sandy, but very fruitsul, and well watered by several rivulets, which run down both sides of the mountains. It produces plenty of manioc root, vegetables, fruits, timber, &c. The whole island is covered with plantations, whose owners (noted for the softness of their manners) live in agreeable, clean, and convenient habitations, adorned with fountains and groves. Most of their houses are built of cedar, and the lands hedged with orange and lemon trees. The cultivation of sugar takes up only twenty-four thousand acres, but the whole of their plantations amount to forty-four thoufand.

The most considerable town is Basseterre, formerly the capital of the French part, the other is called Sandy point, and always belonged to the English. There is no harbour, nor even the appearance of one; on the contrary, the furf is continually beating on the sandy thore at the sew places fit to land, which not only prevents the building any quay or wharf, but renders the landing or shipping of goods always inconvenient, and very often dangerous: they have been therefore obliged to adopt a particular method to ship the heavy goods, such as hogsheads of sugar or rum. For this purpose they use a small boat of a peculiar construction.

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struction, called a Moses; this boat sets off from the ship with some very active and expert rowers: when they see what they call a hull, that is, an abatement in the violence of the surge, they push to land, and lay the sides of the moses on the strand, the hogshead is rolled into it, and the same precautions are used to carry it to the ship. Rum, cotton, and other goods that will bear the water, are generally floated to and from the ship.

This illand is divided into nine parishes, each of which has a handsome church. Public affairs are administered by a governor, a council, and an affembly chosen from the parishes. In 1770 the exportations of this island amounted to above four hundred and nineteen thousand pounds sterling for sugar, molasses and rum, and near eight thousand pounds for cotton. The inhabitants amount to about eight thousand whites, and twenty

thousand blacks.

The illand of Antigua, the most considerable of the Leeward Caribbees, is of a circular form, about twenty miles each way, and near fixty in circumference. It is more noted for good harbours than all the English islands in these seas, yet so encompassed with rocks, that it is of dangerous access in many parts. The climate is hotter than Barbadoes, and very subject to hurricanes. The soil is sandy, and much of it overgrown with wood. Here are but few springs, and not so much as a brook in the whole island, so that the inhabitants depend on the casual

rains for most of the water they are supplied with.

St. John is the capital of Antigua: it is a regular well built town on the west shore, with a good harbour of the same name, whose entrance is defended by Fort James. It is the residence of the governor general of the Caribbee Leeward Islands, the place where the affembly for this illand is held, and the port where the greatest trade is carried on. The best port in the island is English harbour on the south side: it has, with much trouble and expence, been made fit to receive the greatest ships of war, who find there a dock-yard with stores, and all the materials and conveniences necessary to repair and careen. English Harbour is at a small distance from the town and harbour of Falmouth: there are besides, Willoughby Bay to the windward of English Harbour, Nonsuch Harbour on the east point, and the town and harbour of Parham on the north side, and a great number of creeks and smaller bays; but the shore being in general rocky, wherever the landing would be practicable it is defended by forts and batteries; and for the defence of the illand there is generally one regiment of regular troops quartered there.

Antigua has a governor general, a licutenant governor, a council, and its own affembly of twenty-four members; besides which, the governor general can, when he thinks proper, call a general assembly of the representatives of the other islands. It is divided into fix parishes and eleven districts, of which ten fend each two representatives, and that of St. John four. In 1770 their exports amounted to four hundred and forty-fix thousand pounds sterling to Great Britain, Ireland and America, of which sum five hundred pounds is only for cotton, all the rest is the produce of sugar, molasses and rum. The number of vesfels that enter yearly into the harbour is reckoned at three hundred, but that of the inhabitants of the illand is not certainly known.

The small island of Nevis consists of one vast mountain rifing to a very confiderable height in the middle: it is fituated about four miles to the east of St. Christopher's. The soil is fruitful, and the staple commodity sugar, which serves all the purposes of money. Here are sometimes violent rains and tornadoes, as in the other illands, and the air is even hotter than that of Barbadoes. Here are many remarkable insects and reptiles, particularly the flying tyger, the horn fly, and a kind of snail, called the soldier. The sea abounds with a variety of excellent fish, as groupers, rock fish, old wives, cavallies, welshmen, mud-sish, wilks, cockles, lobsters, &c. land crabs are very common here; they are smaller than sea crabs. and make little burrows, like rabbets, in the woods, towards the tops of the mountains. The only venomous creatures are scorpions and centipedes. Here are springs of fresh water and a hot bath, much of the same nature as those of Bath in Enggland.

Their sheep have no horns nor wool, but are cloathed with smooth hair, and generally full of small red or black spots resembling those of a fine spaniel. They breed twice a year, if not oftener, and generally bring two, three, or four lambs at a time, and, what is more extraordinary, suckle them all. The rams are of a pale red colour, with a thick row of long strait red hair hanging down from the lower jaw to their breaft as far as the fore-legs. The hogs, being fed with Indian corn, Spanish potatoes, and fugar canejuice, are exceeding fiveet food, white and fat, and so are the turkies, which are fed with the same diet. The ground doves here are about the fize of a lark, of a chocolate colour, spotted with dark blue, their heads like that of a robin red-breaft, and their eyes and legs of a most pure

red. Here are excellent game-cocks and fine bull-dogs, which retain their spirit, belides large cur-dogs, but no spaniels or hounds.

Here are great quantities of asparagus: likewise a tree called diddle-doo, which bears a lovely blotlom of the finest yellow and scarlet colours, and is esteemed a sovereign remedy against the green tickness. The liquorice runs wild along the stone walls of common fields, like the vine; but here is no lignum vitæ or iron wood. The butter of this illand is not good, and new cheese far worse.

Charles-town, the capital, has a fort, called Great Fort, that defends the anchoring place, where the governor, council and allembly meet; the lait is composed of five members for each of the three parithes into which the island is divided. Here are three tolerable roads or bays, on which are as many little towns, viz. Newcastle, Littleborough on Moreton bay, and Charlestown above-mentioned.

The king gives twenty pounds out of the exchequer to the clergy, who are fent hither by the bithop of London to vacant partitles to defray the charges of their voyage. The fees for every christening, marriage, and burial, are one shilling and sixpence, and for a funeral fermon three pounds, or five hundred pounds weight of fugar.

They have three public annual fasts to implore the divine protection against hurricanes; and if none happen in July, August or September, they have in October a public thanklgiving.

If a negro in this illand strikes a white man, he is punished with the loss of his hand; and if he should draw blood, with death. A negro cannot be evidence against a white man: but if a white man kill a negro, he cannot be tried for his life for the murder; all that he suffers is, a fine of thirty pounds currency to the malter for the loss of his flave.

Before the revolution Nevis contained thirty thousand inhabitants; but the invalion of the French about that time, and some epidemical disorders have greatly diminished the number, since they only reckon at present two or three thousand whites, and six or seven thousand negroes. In 1770 their exportations to Great Britain, in cotton and sugar, amounted to near forty-four thousand pounds; those to North America, where they find a great deal of molasses, rum, and a prodigious number of lemons, exceeded fourteen thousand pounds. About twenty veilels are em-

ployed annually in trade to and from this illand.

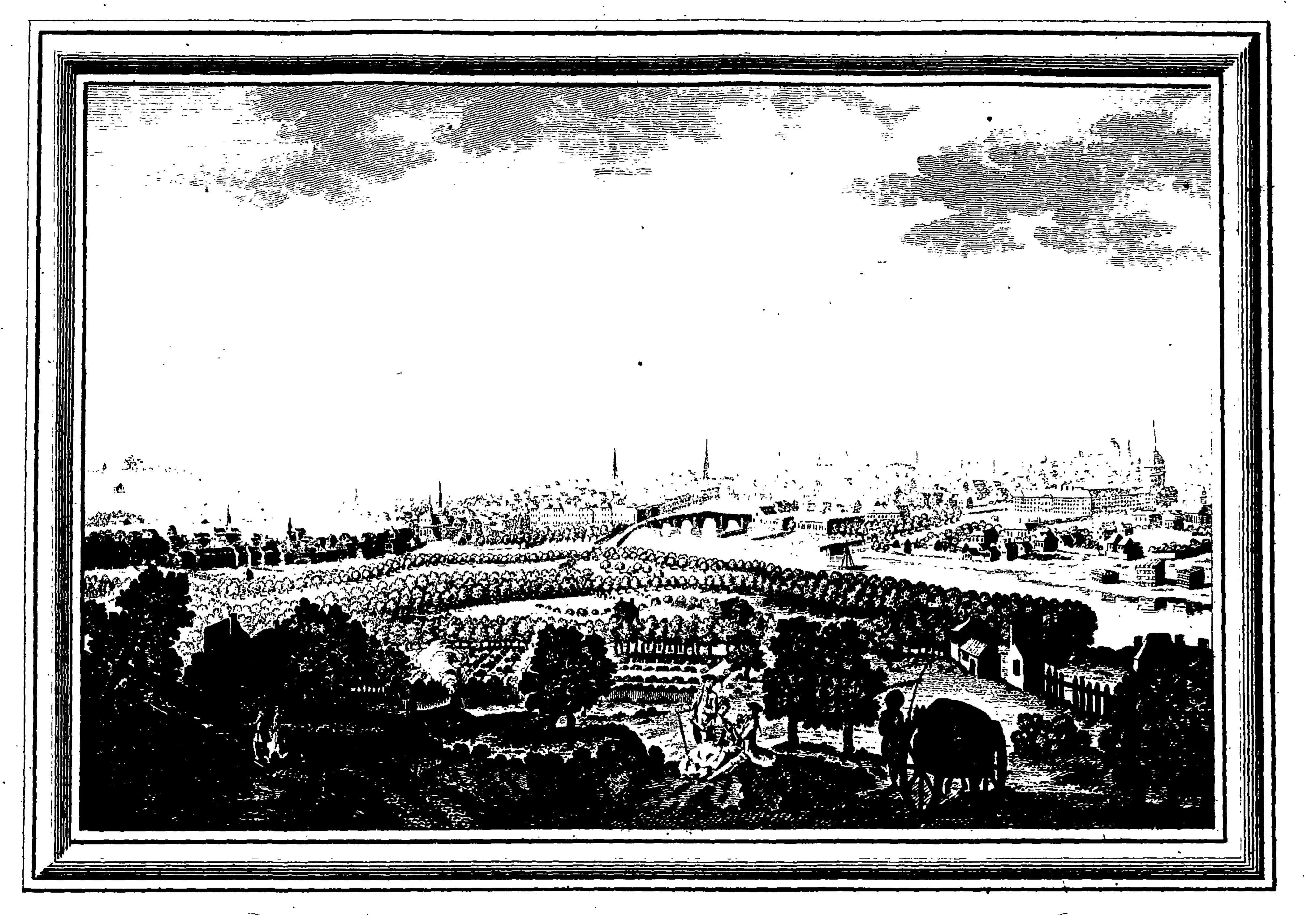
The illand of Montserrat is situated twenty-five miles almost south-east from Nevis, twenty west-south-west from Antigua, forty north-west from Guadaloupe, and two hundred and forty from Barbadoes. It is of an oval figure, about three leagues in length, the fame in breadth, and eighteen in circumference. Columbus first discovered this island in 1493. It was settled in 1632 by Sir Thomas Warner, and taken in the beginning of the reign of Charles II. by the French, who restored it to the English at the peace of Breda. The first settlers were Irishmen, and the present inhabitants are principally composed either of their descendants or of natives of Ireland; so that the use of the Irith language is preferved in this island, even among the negroes. The Spaniards gave it the name of Montferrat from a fancied resemblance it bore to a mountain of that name near Barcelona in Old Spain, where is a famous chapel dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

This illand is well watered, and fruitful: its soil, climate, and produce resemble those of the other English Caribbees. The mountains yield cedars, the cypress tree, the iron tree, with other woods, and some odoriterous thrubs: the planters formerly raised a great deal of indigo. The camanture, by some called the sea cow, is found near this illand, and generally at the entrance of fresh water rivers. It is said to be an amphiblous animal, and to live mostly on herbage. Its slesh is reckoned very wholsome food when falted, and they are so large, that two or three of them load a canoe. The furrounding leas produce several hideous monsters, particularly two, which, from their remarkable ugliness, as well as the poisonous quality of their flesh, are called fea devils.

There is no harbour in this island, only three roads, namely, Plymouth (which is the chief town in the illand) Old Harbour, and Ker's Bay, where the shipping and landing of goods is attended with the before-mentioned inconveniences.

The government of Montserrat is composed of a lieutenantgovernor, a council, and an affembly of eight representatives, two for each of the four districts which divide the island. The annual exports from hence to Great Britain and Ireland are ellimated at ninety thousand pounds, and to North America twelve thousand. The number of inhabitants here is about fourteen thousand, among whom are about one thousand sive hundred whites.

The island of Barbuda is only about twenty miles in length, and twelve in breadth, and is situated fisteen miles north-east of Montserrat. It is the property of the Codrington family, who appoint the governor. Part of the estate arising from " (amounting,



Algeneral View of the CITY of RARIS, taken from an Eminence in the Village of Thaillot.



Call March



Thereof the Midden of SININCENT, whiper to the PORKETONEST.

(amounting, as is said, to two thousand pounds a year, with two plantations in Barbadoes) was bequeathed, in 1710, by Christopher Codeington, Esq; governor of Barbadoes, to the society for propagating the gospel, towards the instruction of the negroes in the Caribbee islands in the Christian religion, and the erection of a college at Barbadoes for teaching the liberal arts.

This is a fertile island, though the land lies low: on the west side of it is a good well sheltered road, clear from rocks and stands. The inhabitants apply themselves chiefly to the breeding of cattle, and raising provisions, with which they supply the neighbouring islands. Many of the commodities produced in the other West India islands may also be raised here. There are some large serpents on the island, but they are neither poisonous nor noxious, and will destroy rats, toads and srogs, though the sting or bite of others is mortal, unless an antidote is quickly

applied.

Anguilla lies about seventy-five miles north-west of Barbuda, and about forty to the north of St. Christopher's. It is very long and narrow, which induced the Spaniards to give it the name of Anguilla, or Eel. It is so low and flat, that the French, who first settled there, did not think it worth cultivating, or even keeping; the English adopted the same opinion when they took pollession of it, and the illand was a long time in their hands before they perceived the contrary. Within a few years industry and the indefatigable labours of the planters of Anguilla have convinced them, that their island produces not only all the necessaries of life, but, besides, many provisions which they stell to their neighbours, as well as sugar and cotton. Before the late war, their exportations, which promise an increase, amounted, in fugar, rum and cotton, to near fix thousand pounds, three thousand eight hundred of which were for Great Britain, the rest for North America. The climate is very healthy, and the inhabitants strong and vigorous.

There are several small uninhabited islands to the north of Barbuda, and dependant on it: the most remarkable of them (called Sombrero by the Spaniards from its resemblance to a hut) lies at

fix leagues distance, and is about a league long.

The Archipelago of the Virgin Islands lie to the west of Barbuda and Sombrero, after having croffed a channel of eight leagues: these were so denominated in memory of the eleven thousand virgins of the legend. They take up a space from cast to west of about twenty-four leagues long, quite to the eastern coast of Porto Rico, with a breadth of about sixteen leagues. They are composed of a great number of isles, whose coalts, rent throughout, and sprinkled with rocks, every where dangerous to navigators, are famous for ship-wrecks, and particularly of several galleons. Happily for the trade and navigation of these islands, nature has placed in the middle of them a large bason of three or four leagues broad, and six or seven long, the finest that can be imagined, and in which ships may anchor land-locked, and sheltered from all winds. Sir Francis Drake first entered it in 1580 in his expedition against St. Domingo: hence it is called the Bay of Sir Francis Drake.

These islands are all of them exceedingly small, and the greatest part uninhabited. One of them is called the Tropic Keys, from the prodigious quantity of Tropic birds which breed there, and are about the fize of a pigeon, but round and plump like a partridge, and very good to eat: their plumage is quite white, except two or three feathers in each wing of a clear grey; their beaks are short, thick, and of a pale yellow; they have a feather, or quill, about seven inches long, which comes out of their rump, and is all the tail they have. These birds have never been seen but between the Tropics, from which circum-

stance they derive their name.

Dominica is fituated about half way between Martinico and Guadaloupe, in fixteen degrees north latitude, and fixty-two west longitude. It is about twenty-eight miles in length, and thirteen in breadth, and received its name from being discovered by Columbus on a Sunday. The soil of this island is thin, and better adapted to the rearing of coffee than sugar; but the sides of the hills bear the finest trees in the West Indies, and the whole island is well supplied with rivulets of sine water. At the north west end there is a spacious sandy bay, called St. Rupert's, which is well secured from the winds by mountains on all sides. Here, as in some other of the Carribbees, is a sulphur mountain, and hot spring, equal in salubrity to those of Bath in England; and the sine sruits, particularly the pine apples, are superior to any that grow on the French islands.

The town of Roseau, which is situated on a spacious harbour, is the most distinguished place in this island. The houses are low, and irregularly placed, and the town is sheltered by the circumjacent mountains, some of which rise to a considerable height. Ships of a considerable fize ride at anchor with the greatest safety in the bay or harbour, from whence there is a

Most advantageous view of the town.

St. Vincent is fituated about fifty miles north-west of Bar-badoes, is about twenty-sour miles in length, and eighteen in

breadth. It is generally allowed to be one of the best of all the Antilles. Out of the ridge of mountains, which crosses it from south to north, rise a great number of rivers well stored with sish. These mountains are in general of an easy ascent, some of the vallies and plains are of a large extent, exceedingly sertile, and produce most of the necessaries of life, particularly sugar, cossee, cacao, and anatta. When this island was ceded to Great Britain by the treaty of Versailles in 1763 there was a great number of a mixed breed of the antient Caribs, and of ship-wrecked or run-away negroes, but none of these now remain.

Kingstown is the most remarkable place here: it is situated on a bay of the same name at the south-west end of the island. It is the residence of the governor, and the place where the assembly meet. The town of Calliagua, whose harbour is the most considerable in the whole island, stands about three miles from

Kingstown towards the south-east.

The island of Granada is situated in twelve degrees north latitude, and sixty-two degrees west longitude, about thirty leagues south-west of Barbadoes, and almost the same distance north of New Andalusia, or the Spanish main. The island is about thirty miles long, and sifteen broad. The soil is very rich and fertile, and particularly adapted for producing sugar, cosses, tobacco, and indigo. A lake on the top of a hill, in the middle of an island, supplies it plentifully with fine rivers, which adorn and fertilize it. Several bays and harbours lie round the island; some of these may be fortissed with great advantage, which renders it very convenient for shipping, and it has the happiness of not being subject to hurricanes. St. George's Bay has a sandy bottom, and is extremely capacious, but open: an hundred vessels may be moored with perfect safety in its harbour, or careening place.

The Grenadines are a small cluster of islands near Granada: they produce very fine timber, sugar, indigo, tobacco, peas and millet; but the cocoa tree does not thrive so well in them as in

the others.

The island of Granada was long the theatre of bloody wars between the native Indians and the French, during which the Caribbees desended themselves with the most resolute bravery. In the war of 1756, when Granada was attacked by the English, the French inhabitants, who were not very numerous, were so amazed at the reduction of Guadalupe and Martinico, that they lost all spirit, and surrendered without making the least opposition; and the full property of this island, together with the Grenadines, was confirmed to the crown of Great Britain by the treaty of peace in 1763, and by the late one in 1783.

SECT. IV.

Containing a Description of the SPANISH WEST INDIA ISLANDS, with an Account of their Extent, Situation, Climate, Produce, Principal Towns, Inhabitants, Trade, Commodities, &c.

West, but very narrow in proportion, not being above seventy in breadth: it lies sixty miles to the west of Hispaniola, twenty-five leagues to the north of Jamaica, one hundred miles to the east of Jucatan, and as many to the south of Cape Florida, and extends in latitude from twenty degrees twenty minutes to the Tropic of Cancer, and from seventy-four degrees to eighty-five degrees fifteen minutes west longitude. It commands the entrance of both the gulfs of Mexico and Florida, and the Windward Passage.

In the months of July and August, when the sun is vertical, the rains and storms are great, otherwise the climate would be intolerably hot. The fairest season is, when the sun is farthest off, and then it is hottest in the morning; for towards noon a sea breeze springs up, which blows pretty brisk till the evening. The trade winds in these seas blow from the north-east. At the sull and change of the moon, from October to April, there are brisk winds at north and north-west, which in December and January often turn to storms, though this is called the sair season. The whole island is well watered, and agreeably diversified with

woods, lawns and vallies.

The soil is capable of producing, in the greatest plenty, every thing that grows in the other American islands; but the Cuba (commonly called the Havannah) tobacco is thought to excel that of all the world, and their sugar would equal their tobacco in goodness, had they hands to cultivate the canes. They have two forts of fruit, called camilor and guanavana, the first like a china orange, and the other shaped like a hart, with a juice between sweet and acid. The other products are plantains, bananas, ananas, guavas, lemons, cocoas, ginger, long pepper, and other spices; cassa, mastic, aloes, large cedars, and other odoriferous trees; oaks, pines, palm trees, plenty of large vines and fine cotton trees.

Gold dust is found in the sands of the rivers; but it is uncertain whether there are any gold or silver mines, the hopes of which occasioned the butchery of all the antient inhabitants, who were either unable or unwilling to discover them: if there are any, they are not worked. The copper mines here furnish the Spanish plantations with a sufficiency of that metal for all their brass guns. A chain of hills runs through the middle of the illand; but the land near the coast is generally a level, champaign country. The interior parts lie quite uncultivated and uninhabited. Here are many good harbours; but there are scarce any navigable rivers. Both the coasts and rivers abound with fish, and also with alligators. There are great conveniences for making salt; but the inhabitants avail themselves very little of them.

The cattle brought hither by the Spaniards have multiplied exceedingly, vast numbers now running wild in the woods, of which many are killed, chiefly for their hides and tallow, that are sent to Spain. Their flesh also, being cut in pieces, and dried in the sun, serves to victual ships. These cattle are often so fat, that they die through the burden of their grease. Here are likewise abundance of mules, horses, sheep, wild boars, and hogs, together with wild and tame fowl, parrots, partridges, blue heads, large tortoiles: several fountains of bitumen, which is used instead of pitch, as well as for medicinal purpo-

ses; here are also quarries of flint.

Cuba is pleasant, and in its present state flourishing, as the Spaniards are now continually improving it. Formerly its exportations never equalled those of the small British island of Antigua. The reason of this, next to the indolence of the Spaniards, was the great facility with which the inhabitants got their money by means of the galleons and flota, and the very great contraband trade carried on here in defiance of their laws,

and by connivance of the government.

This island is divided into seven provinces, the civil government of which is dependant on that of St. Domingo, or Hifpaniola: its bishop, whose see is at St. Jago, though he commonly resides at the Hayannah, is suffragan to the archbishop of St. Domingo. The east part of the island is under the governor of St. Jago, and the west of the governor of the Havannah. There are several large towns in the island; but the

two abovementioned are the most considerable.

On the north-west coast of the island stands the Havannah, the capital, in twenty-three degrees twelve minutes north latitude, and in the eighty second degree thirteen minutes west longitude. The town itself, distinct from the fortifications, is about two miles in circuit, and contains about twenty-fix thousand fouls. Its port is said to be the most frequented, as well as the best in all the islands, and one of the sinest in the world; it being so large, that a thousand sail of ships may commodiously ride in it with the utmost safety, without either anchor or cable, no wind being able to hurt them; and is so deep, that the largest vessels anchor at a small distance from the shore. The entrance, which has no bar to obstruct it, is by a channel about three quarters of a mile in length, but so narrow, that only one ship can go in at a time. The harbour into which it leads at the north-west corner, is a long square lying north and south; the other three corners forming three creeks or bays.

This city stands in the most fertile part of the island, on the west side of the harbour, in a delightful plain that extends along the shore, and backwards it is washed by two branches of the river Lagida. The city is of an oval form, and begins about a quarter of a mile from the mouth of the harbour. The buildings, which are of stone, are very handsome, but not lofty, and the lireets are narrow, but clean. Here are eleven churches and monasteries, two handsome hospitals, and a fine square in the middle of the town, encompassed with uniform buildings.

The city on the land side is encompassed with a wall defended by ballions, and a caltle on the side towards the harbour; at the harbour's mouth are also two other strong castles to defend it's entrance: the strongest of these has lines, which extend to the callle first mentioned, and is called the Moro fort: it is built on a rock at the foot of two hills, in which is cut a deep ditch, filled with sea water. The second castle is called the Puntal, and is fortified with four bastions well planted with cannon. The third is called El Fuerto, or the Fort, and has fixty large heavy brass cannon belonging to it; there are also two other small sorts, called Coxemar and Bariavans. These forts, all

together, have one hundred and twenty guns.

This city is of more importance to the Spaniards than any other in America, it being the place of rendezvous for all their fleets in their return from that quarter of the world to Spain; and from its lying at the mouth of the gulf of Florida, through which they are obliged all topass, it has been called by the Spaniards, the key of the Welt-Indies. Here rides the navy of the king of Spain; and here meet in September the merchants flips from several Spanish ports, both of the continent and illands, to the number of fifty or fixty fail, to take in

provisions and water, in order to return to Spain in a body. Within the city is a continual fair till their departure, which is generally before the end of the month, when proclamation is made, forbidding any that belong to the fleet to stay in the town on pain of death, and upon firing a warning gun, they

all go on board.

St. Jago is seated in the twentieth degree two minutes north latitude, and in the seventy-sisth degree sorty-seven minutes west longitude, at the bottom of a spacious bay, on the southeast side of the illand, about six miles from the sea. The entrance to the bay is narrow, and within it are small illands, which shelter it from storms, and form a commodious harbour. It is a bishop's see, and has a cathedral; it had once also a good trade, which is now removed to the Havannah. and though the city has jurisdictions over half the illand, it has dwindled almost to nothing.

The other principal towns in the illand are Santa Cruz. which is seated sixty-three miles to the east of the Havannah. on the same coast, and has a very good harbour. Porto del Principe, on the same coast, stands about three hundred miles fouth-east of the Havannah; it was formerly a rich town, and was taken by the Buccaneers, after a stout resistance; near it are some springs of bitumen. Baracoa is situated on the north-

east part of the illand.

The island of Hispaniola, or St. Domingo, is situated about thirteen leagues to the eastward of Cuba, and was called Aitti by the antient inhabitants. It is about four hundred miles in length, one hundred and fifty in breadth; and the coalt, including the circumference of all the bays and creeks, near five

hundred leagues.

The climate, though hot, is not reckoned unwholsome. being refreshed by breezes and rains. This island is agreeably diversified with hills and vallies, woods and rivers, producing ananas, bananas, grapes, oranges, lemons, citrons, toronias, limes, dates, and apricots, fairer and better talled than those of the other islands, together with whole forests of cabbagetrees, elms, oaks, pines, acajou, and other trees, large and lofty. The other commodities are sugar, hides, indigo, cotton, cocoa, coffee, ginger, tobacco, salt, wax, honey, ambergris, and various kinds of drugs and dyeing woods. There are plenty of tortoiles on its coalls and in the rivers, which are

also infested with crocodiles and alligators.

The Spaniards and French possess this island in common, though the latter formerly occupied the whole. Columbus difcovered it in 1492, and called it the Spanish Island; a denomination it has preserved under the name of Hispaniola, along with that of St. Domingo. They found here some exceeding rich gold mines. The greater part of the male Indians perished in these mines; and almost all the females, by the excessive labour of cultivating the fields of maiz for the use of the conquerors; the others were mailacred either in cold blood, or in ranged battles, for so they called those kinds of savage chaces which the Spaniards, covered with iron, and followed by bulldogs, made to a multitude of these unhappy wretches, quite naked, and flying with all their might: we are told, that no less than three millions of men, women, and children, were murdered in cold blood by these inhuman butchers. The quick extermination of the natives, and consequently the difficulty of working the mines; the bloody quarrels of the conquerors among one another; the discovery of Mexico, soon after that of St. Domingo, drawing thither all the invaders; lastly, the pillaging of the capital by Drake, in 1586; all these things made the new colony fall to decay a few years after its ellablishment. The Spaniards, scattered about this large illand, having become unable to hinder the Buccaneers from seizing the wellern parts, and settling themselves there, retired on the eastern side, which they have occupied ever since. Their part both for culture and commerce, is much the best; it has large fruitful plains; and the situation of its coast is much more favourable to navigation than that of the French.

The soil is but little cultivated by the Spaniards, who are no less indolent here than at Cuba: their chief employ is, to breed cattle, or to hunt those which have multiplied in the woods. They get from their neighbours flockings, hats, linen, guns, iron ware, and some cloaths; and give them horses, horned

cattle, hogs, hides, and smoaked beef, in return.

The most considerable town belonging to the Spaniards is San Domingo, the capital; this is a large and well-built city, situated on a spacious harbour on the south side of the island, containing about thirty thouland inhabitants, and defended by a callle and other works. Here is an university and a college, with a revenue of four thousand ducats, a Latin school, several convents, a magnificent cathedral, anhospital, having a revenue of twenty thousand ducats, and a fine market-place in the centre of the city; which is also the residence of the governorgeneral of the Spinish Indies, and of an archbishop, and court of royal audience. The relibilhop's luffragans are the billiops of Conception in this illand, St. John's in Porto Rico, St. Jago in Cuba, Venzuela in New Caltile, and of the city of Honduras. The jurisdiction of the court of royal audience extends to all the Spanish West-Indian islands. A fine navigable river falls into the sea a little to the west of the city which owes its present support to the lawyers and eccleliallicks, whose profedions oblige them to relide on it.

The town of Conception flands twenty leagues north of San Domingo. It is a large place, and the see of a bishop. Porto la Piata, or the Haven of Silver, flands on an arm of the sea, thirty-five leagues north of St. Domingo. Monte Christo is at the mouth of the river Yaguey, ten miles west of Porto de la Plata, and forty north-west from St. Domingo. St. Jago de los Cavalieros lies ten leagues north-welt of Concep-

tion, and enjoys a fine air.

The chief towns belonging to the French are, 1. Cape St. François, situate on the north side of the island: it is in a flourishing condition, having a fine harbour, a brisk trade, and about eight thouland inhabitants. 2. St. Louis, or Port Louis, which flands on a finall i land on the fouth-west coast, and has a good harbour with a fort, but labours under a scarcity of freih water. 3. Port Paix, a place of considerable strength, lying opposite the island of Tortuga, on the north-west coast of the illand. 4. Port Guaves and Leogane, on Donna Maria Bay near Cape St. Nicolas, at the west end of the island. Leogane is the residence of the French governor-general, and of the royal judicature, with that of the supreme council, whose jurisdiction extends from Cape Mougon to the river Artibonite: the other is the oldest French settlement in the island, and a place of confiderable trade.

Two othersmall places, viz. La Petite Riviere, and L'Esterre, the latter of which stands a little within land, also belong to

the French.

Tortuga, the island above-mentioned, had its name from the turtles with which it formerly abounded. It is about fix leagues long from east to west, and three where broadest. The French have a populous flourithing settlement, called Cavona, with a harbour, in the south part of this island: it yields all the commodities found in the other West Indian islands, together with wild boars; but has little or no fresh water. Savona and Mena are the other most considerable islands on this

coast: these belong to the Spaniards.

The illand of Porto Rico, is situated between sixty-four and fixty-seven degrees well longitude, and in eighteen degrees north latitude, lying between Hilpaniola and St. Christopher's. It is about one hundred miles in length, and forty in breadth. Most of the country is diversified with woods, vallies, and plains, is extremely fertile, and produces the same fruits as the other islands. It is well watered with springs and rivers; but the air is excessive hot, and very unwholesome during the rainy seasons. In the north part of the illand, which is the most barren, there were formerly several rich gold and silver mines; but there is not any considerable quantity found in it at

prefent.

A breed of dogs, which the Spaniards brought over to hunt and tear in pieces the defenceless natives, are said to run wild in the woods near the sea-shore, and subsist upon land crabs that burrow in the ground. The woods are stored with parrots, wild pigeons, and other fowl. European poultry is found here in plenty, and the coast abounds with fish. Their pork is excelient, as is likewise the fleth of their kids; but their mutton is very indifferent. They have good ship timber and fruit trees, with rice and Indian corn. The principal commodities here are, sugar, ginger, hides, cotton, thread, catha,

mailtie, &c.

Great pains have been taken by the Spanish government, to prevent an illicit trade being carried on at this place; but all the several edicts issued against it have been ineffectual; owing

to the convenience of its lituation for that traffic.

The capital town, Porto Rico, is situated on a small island on the north coast. This island forms a capacious harbour, and is joined to the chief illand by a causeway. It is desended by forts and batteries, which render the place almost inacessible. This town is well built and populous; is a bithop's see, and the residence of a governor.

Belides the capital, here is a place called Boraba d'Infernes, remarkable for having an excellent turtle filhery; and Port del Agnada, where the flota provide themselves with water,

and other necellaries, in their voyage to Spain.

There is a small place on the coast of Porto Rico, called Crabs Illand, from the great number of crabs found there.

Sir Francis Drake took l'orto Rico from the Spaniards. It was afterwards conquered by the earl of Cumberland, in the reign of queen Elizabeth; but he was obliged to abandon it, having lost most of his men by sickness in the latter-end of the summer, which is a very unhealthy season in all places in these latitudes.

The illand of Trinidad lies between Tobago and the Spanish main, from which it is separated by the straights of Paria. It is about ninety miles long, and fixty broad; and is an unhealthy, but fruitful country. Its principal productions are, sugar, fine tobacco, indigo, ginger, variety of fruit, some Indian corn, and cotton-trees.

This illand was taken by Sir Walter Raleigh in 1505; and by the French in 1676, who plundered it, and laid the inha-

bitants under contribution.

Margarieta, two hundred miles west of Trinidad, is about forty miles in length, and fifteen in breadth. The continual verdure renders it very pleasant; but it has not been considerable fince the Spaniards retired from thence to Terra Firma. The inhabitants now are Mulattoes, and the original natives. It was taken by the Dutch in 1626, who pillaged and demolished it.

SECT. V.

Treating of the French and Danish WEST-INDIA ISLANDS, their Situation and Extent, Climate, Soil, Produce, Animals, Inhabitants, Commodities, Trade, &c.

ARTINICO is the most considerable West-India itland belonging to the French, being about sixty miles in length, and thirty in breadth. It is situated about one hundred and twenty miles north-west of Barbadoes, between the fourteenth and fifteenth degree of north latitude. A ridge of mountains runs through its whole length; they are pallable in several places, though their centre is only a heap of craggy rocks. This ridge is such, that it makes the island appear to the navigators like three distinct mountains; from hence run above forty rivers, and a great many leifer streams, which create a humidity very noxious to the constitution. The coasts abound with turtles; but the French are not so expert as the English in fishing for them.

The soil is very unequal; some grounds alternately suffer by dryness and rain; there are some marshy, and almost entirely drowned by the sea; others are sostony, as to baffle all attempts of the planters, but the greatest quantity of land between the thore and the mountains is capable of being successfully cultivated, and rendered as fruitful as possible, if proper measures were used by the inhabitants. The chief productions are sugar, tobacco, cotton, ginger, indigo, cacao, aloes, pimen-

to, cocoas, plantains, and other tropical fruits.

Before this illand was subdued by the English in the war of 17.56, it could raise ten thousand white inhabitants fit to carry arms, and above forty thousand negroes or slaves; besides which some companies of regulars were always quartered in the illand.

The governor-general and intendant, as likewise a sovereign council, which superintends all their other islands, and even their settlements of St. Domingo and Tortuga, reside in Martinico. The governor-general and intendant, and lieutenantgovernor, are paid out of the finances of Old France. The governor of Martinico, as well as Guadalupe, is paid in sugar, as indeed are all the other officers of the island, except some inconsiderable sums that issue from the treasury of Old France. The governors are allowed fixty thousand pounds weight of sugar, with a pension of one thousand crowns paid in Old France. The lieutenant-governors have twenty thousand pounds weight, and five thousand livres salary. The king's judges, attornies, and other officers, have each an allowance of fix thousand weight; but the counsellors of the sovereign's council have no more than twelve thousand weight, or twelve of their negroes exempted from the capitation tax; which tax is paid by the white men and free negroes who are hired servants, and consists of one hundred weight of coarse sugar a year, for each domestic or negro who is employed in manufacturing it: and of fix livres for every other. The hundred weight of lugar is rated at four livres ten sols.

The illand owes its flourishing state to the French government having transported thither, by way of punishment, great numbers of its protestant subjects, some of whom voluntarily settled there. All provisions imported into it are subject to a duty of one per cent in specie; and the third of all forfeitures

and fines goes to the crown.

There are in Martinico twenty-eight parishes or districts, which contain about the same number of towns or villages, and two principal towns, For Royal and St. Pierre or St. Peter's. The first is the seat of government: its streets are regular, the houses agreeable, and the inhabitants very much given to all kinds of luxury; they are the Parilians of the Welt-Indies. To the east of the town, on a neck of land, is an irregular fort, badly built, and worse deligned, which gives name to the town it poorly desends. The French have since built a citadel upon Monte Garnicei, an eminence higher than the most elevated points of Monte Patate, Tartanson, and Cartsuche,

which all command Fort Royal: this citadel has cost upwards of three hundred and twenty-five thousand pounds sterling.

Fort Royal, as well as the rest of the island, fell under the power of the English in the war of 1756; but they restored it at the peace. The harbour of Fort Royal, where the men of war anchor in winter, is one of the best of the Windward isles, and its security against the hurricanes generally acknowledged: it is supposed that the inner part has been spoiled by sinking the hulks of several ships as a sence against the English.

St. Pierre, or St. Pèter's, is five leagues to the leeward of Fort Royal, in a round bay of the western coast. This town, the first built in the island, is the place of communication between the colony and mother country; it is the residence of merchants, and the centre of business. Notwithstanding the fires which have reduced it four times to ashes, it still contains upwards of one thousand seven hundred houses: a part, situated along the sea-side on the strand itself, is called Le Monillage (the anchoring-place) a very unhealthy place of abode; the other part, separated from this by a river, is built upon a low hill; they call it the Fort, from a small fortress which defends the road. This road is very convenient for the loading and unloading the ships, and the facility of coming in or going out; but they are obliged to take shelter at Fort Royal in the winter season.

At present, the productions of this island amount to twentyeight million weight of sugar, three million weight of coffee, six hundred thousand pounds of cotton, and forty thousand pounds of cacao. Foreigners carry off privately about a twelfth part of the goods of the island; the rest goes to the mother country. In 1766, the merchants of France fitted out for this exportation, one hundred and forty-three veilels, of which one hundred and one landed at the town of St. Pierre, thirty-five at Fort Royal, five at La Trinita, and two at Cul de Saes, or the gulf

of the island.

The island of Guadalupe is situated about thirty leagues north-west of Martinico, in sixteen degrees north latitude. It is about forty-five miles in length, and thirty-eight in breadth; and is cut in two by a channel called the Salt River; also by a deep gulf, or bay on each side. The air of Guadalupe is more

salubrious and less sultry than that of Martinico.

The products of this illand are sugar, coffee, cotton, bastard cinnamon, indigo, ginger, and many other vegetables, particularly the capau-tree, from which is extracted a most excellent ballam; the milk shrub, so called from its yielding a substance like milk when pressed, which salls little short of the capau ballam: the moubane-tree, which bears a yellow plum, with which the natives fatten their hogs; and the corbary-tree, the gum of which, when hardened in the sun, becomes so transparent, that it is formed into beads and bracelets by the Caribs.

Guadalupe abounds with mountains, many of which are covered with wood: and nothing can be more verdant, or more beautifully variegated, than the large fruitful plains which lie beneath them. One of the mountains is said to emit a continual smoke, and to communicate a sulphureous taste to the neighbouring streams. However, such is the fertility of Guadalupe, that it hath been allerted, that if it was as well peopled and cultivated as Barbadoes, it would yield sugar enough for all Europe. Before the war of 1756, when it was reduced by the English, we are told that one hundred thousand hogsheads were exported yearly from it.

On this island is a very remarkable bird called the devil, which is found only here and at Dominica: it is a bird of pasfage, of the fize of a pullet, and all its plumage coal black: it lives on fish, which it catches in the sea at night, being unable to bear the light in the day-time, when flying; so that they often run against interposing objects, and fall down. After their fish-hunting in the night, they repair to a mountain, called the Devil's mountain, where they lodge by pairs in holes, like rabbets. Their flesh, though of a fishy taste, is good nou-

rishing food.

They have a troublesome insect here called a ravet, shaped like a cock chafer, of a stinking smell, and preying upon books and furniture, and whatever they do not gnaw, is discoloured by their ordure, but great numbers of them are destroyed by a kind of spiders, some of which are as big as a man's fist. The bees of Guadalupe are very different from those of Europe, being black, sinaller, and without stings. Instead of making combs, they lay their honey in bladders of wax, about the form and fize of a pigeon's egg. The honey is of a thicker consistence than olive oil; and the only use made of their wax, which is of a dark purple colour, is to secure the corks of bottles.

About the island are several gulfs, called by the French Culs de Saes, which abound with various kinds of fish, and also with

turtle, sharks, and land crabs.

Grand-terre is one of the two divisions of this island; the other consilts of Capes-terre or Cabes-terre, and Balle-terre, which last is also the name of the capital, a large, well fortified. town, situated on both sides of Bailiff river.

The island of Tobago lies forty leagues south by west from Barbadoes, about thirty-five south-east from St. Vincent, forty east from Granada, and between thirty and forty from the Spanish main. It is thirty-two miles in length, about nine in breadth, and seventy in circumference; so that it is rather larger than Barbadoes, or indeed any of our Leeward illands; a small island, two miles in length and one in breadth, lies near the north-east extremity.

With respect to the climate, Tobago is far more temperate than could be expected in an island that is but eleven degrees. ten minutes north from the Equator, for the force of the fun is diminished by the sea breezes. The spice and gum trees. with which it abounds, contribute to its salubrity. This island has another favourable circumstance to recommend it; namely, its lying out of the track of the hurricanes. The north-west extremity is mountainous, but the rest of the island agreeably diversified with rilings and fallings. Here are many springs,

together with commodious bays and creeks.

The soil, in general, is a rich black mould proper for producing, in the greatest plenty, whatever is raised in other parts of the West Indies. But the valuable trees which grow here are, perhaps, its greatest riches; for, besides the different kinds of wood that are found in the other West India islands, it is faid that the true nutmeg and cinnamon trees, with that which produces the real gum-copal, are found on this island. The fig trees of Tobago are reckoned equal to those in Spain and Portugal. India and Guiney corn, French beans, various kinds of peas, the custon apple, that is both meat and drink, and yields an excellent lamp oil; the prickle apple, the banana, pomegranate, pine apple, sweet and bitter orange, lemons, sugar, tobacco, indigo, ginger, sarfaparilla, sempervivum, citrons, vanelloes, limes, guavas, plantains, tamarinds, grapes, cultard apple, the four apple, the papau apple, mammie apple, the yellow plumb, cherries, the cocoa tree that yields both meat, drink, and cloathing; musk, cucumbers, water melons, pomkins, gourds, potatoes, yams, carrots, turneps, parsneps, onions, cassada root, natural balsam, filk grass, five different sorts of pepper, the long, the cod, the bell, the round, and the Jamaica. It is said teas may be raised here by cultivation; though some consider them as the spontaneous production of the island.

In different parts of this island are found green tar, soapearth, with many curious shells, stones, marcasites, and minerals. As for animals, here are wild hogs, pickerees, which resemble a hog, armadilloes, guanoes, which are of the alligator kind, Indian conies and badgers, horses, cows, asses, sheep, deer, goats, and rabbets. No island in the world, we are told; can boast such a variety of fishes, both shell and others, particularly mullets and turtle, of a most delicious taste. Here is

also a great variety of the seather'd species.

The expensive and formidable armaments which have been sent to this island by European powers, in support of their disferent claims, denote the value and importance of it. It was heretofore chiefly possessed by the Dutch, who defended their pretensions against both England and France with the most obstinate perseverance. By the treaty of Aix-la-chapelle, in 1748, it was declared neutral; but by that in 1763 it was yielded up to Great Britain, who formed this island, St. Vincent, and Granada, into one government. Tobago was ceded by Great Britain to France by the late treaty of 1783.

The Danish West Indian islands consist of St. Thomas and

St. Croix, or Santa Cruz.

The illand of St. Thomas is situated to the east of Porto Rico, and is the chief of those called the Virgin Islands. It is about fifteen miles in circumference, and has a safe, strong and commodious harbour, which, by being open to traders of all

nations, enriches the inhabitants.

The soil is in general very sandy, notwithstanding which it produces most of the West Indian commodities, but it is greatly infested with musquetoes. The principal advantage of this island consists in a very good harbour on the south side, where fifty ships may lie in safety. It is desended by a sort, whose batteries at the same time protect the small town built round the shore. This harbour is much frequented by merchant ships: when they are chaced in time of war, they find here a safe protection, and in time of peace a vent for their goods, by the clandestine trade which is continually carried on with the Spanish coasts by the boats of St. Thomas.

The island of St. John is situated two leagues to the south of St. Thomas, and is about the same size. This is the best watered among the Virgins, and its harbour has not only the reputation of being better than that of St. Thomas, but passes also for the best to the leeward of Antigua: the English give it the name of Crawl Bay. But notwithstanding these advantages! there is so little good land in the island, that its planting and

exportations are very inconfiderable.

The

The island of St. Croix, or Santa Cruz, is the most considerable West India island belonging to Denmark. It is situated out of the groupe of the Virgins, five leagues to the fouth of St. John's, being about thirty miles in length, and ten in breadth. It is tolerably fertile, producing most of the necessaries of life, together with oranges, citrons, granates, lemons, the manioc root, and the papau tree, the fruit of which makes a most excellent sweet-meat. Here are also a variety of dyeing woods, and those used for building houses and ships.

Most of the inhabitants of Santa Cruz consist of English, from the illand of Nevis and Antigua, of Irish papists, a small

number of Danes, and German Moravians.

Containing a Description of the AMERICAN ISLANDS, viz. Newfoundland, Cape Breton, St. John, the Bermudas, the Bahamas, Falkland Isles, Juan Fernandez, Fuera or Masa Fuero, and Chiloe; their Situation, Extent, Climate, Produce, Animals, Inhabitants, Commodities, Trade, &c.

TEWFOUNDLAND is of a triangular form, about three hundred and fifty miles long, and two hundred broad, is fituated between forty-fix degrees forty minutes, and forty-two degrees seven minutes north latitude, and between forty-one degrees tifty-two minutes, and fifty-seven degrees forty minutes welt longitude, and has many excellent harbours and bays all round the coast, being bounded to the eastward and southward by the Atlantic ocean, on the north by the straights of Belleisle, which divide it from New Britain, and on the west by the gulf of St. Lawrence. The coasts are extremely subject to fogs, occasioned by the vapours exhaled from the lakes and swamps with which the illand abounds, yet the air is salubrious, and agreeable to most constitutions. The winters are severe, attended with almost continual storms of snow and sleet, the sky

being usually overcast.

The soil is generally supposed to be barren, except only the banks of the rivers, which are tolerably fertile. There are however woods of different kinds throughout almost all the country for several miles from the coast, which contain abundance of timber fit for ship and boat building, as well as for erecting stages for curing and drying fish; and beyond these woods, where the lands are cleared, are in many places good pasturage. The inland parts of the country rise into high hills, and sink into bogs and swamps; where such parts as are not covered with water, afford only shrubs, spruce, and white moss. This island however contains many fine rivers, lakes and rivulets, which abound with beavers, otters, and the like, and afford great plenty of salmon, and other fish. The forests are stored with deer, moose, bears, wolves, and foxes in great plenty; but here are sew cattle, sheep, or horses; instead of the latter, the inhabitants make use of dogs for drawing of wood and other necessaries. These they manage with great dexterity, fixing them in leather collars, and yoking together what number they please. Here are great plenty of wild fowl, but the staple commodity of the illand is cod fish, which are larger and in greater abundance than in any other part of the world yet discovered; and a considerable part of Europe is chiefly supplied with this article. From hence upwards of three thouland sail are annually employed by Great-Britain and America in this fishery; on board of which, and on thore, to cure and pack the fish, are not less than ten thousand hands; so that it is at the same time not only a very profitable branch of trade to the merchant, but a source of livelihood to so many thousands of poor people, and a most excellent nursery to the royal navy, which is hence supplied with a great number of able seamen: it might still be much enlarged; for notwithstanding the great trade carried on by the English here, the French are said to have a considerable share.

There are also taken on these coasts a great number of whales, seals, porpoises, &c. whence above five thousand barrels of oil, belides a great quantity of whale-bone, seal-skins, &c. are annually exported from hence to different parts of the world; all which sufficiently shew the importance of the island, notwithstanding the roughness and barrenness of the soil, and

severity of the climate.

The number of English inhabitants on the island is uncertain and fluctuating. They are indeed very inconfiderable, if compared with its extent; but there are not half the number in winter that there are in summer. Placentia, the capital of the illand, which is feated on the fouthern point, contains no

more than between three and fourfcore houses.

The vellels employed in the fishery are small shallops, which come to thore every day, where the fithermen throw the cod they have taken upon a stage prepared for that purpose. One of them, who is called the cut-throat, opens the fifth with a two-edged knife, and cuts off his head; a fecond hands the fish to the carver, who stands opposite to him at a table erccted upon

the stage, who with a single-edged knife, six or eight inches long, and very thick on the back, to increase its weight, splits the fish open, when it is conveyed to the salter, who places it with the skin undermost in a barrel, and then very slightly covers it with salt, laying the fish regularly one upon another. After leaving the cod in falt three or four days, and sometimes twice as long, according to the season, they put it into a tub, wash it well, make it up in piles, and, in fair weather, spread it out with the skin undermost on a kind of stage raised with wattles about two feet from the ground; before night they turn the skin uppermost, which they also do whenever it rains.

When the fish becomes a little dry, it is raised into larger piles, where it rests a day or two; after which it is again exposed to the air, and turned according as there is occasion, be-

fore they again raise it into larger piles, where, after this is done, it sometimes remains fifteen days without being moved; after which it is once more exposed to the air, and, when almost dry, gathered together again in order to sweat, which takes up twenty-four hours or more, according to the season: it is then opened and exposed to the air for the last time, and, when thoroughly dried, housed. Fish cured in this manner are not only more fair to the eye, but more grateful to the taste, than those

which are perfectly prepared for the sea; and those fish are generally the best which are cured in the spring before the great heats.

The principal towns are Placentia, Bonavista, and St. John. The Indians of this island are said to be a gentle, mild, tractable people, easily gained by civility and good usage. They paint their bodies, and are clad in skins and furs in winter.

The island of Cape Breton is situated between forty-five and fifty-seven degrees north latitude, and between sixty-one and sixty-two degrees west longitude, being one hundred miles long, and eighty broad. It is situated about twenty leagues southwest from Newsoundland, and is separated by the straight of Canso from Nova Scotia. The north coast is high, and almost inaccessible; but the south coast contains several excellent harbours, particularly that of Louisbourg, which is very spacious and commodious.

In this island, the climate is much the same with that of Quebec, only more subject to fogs; the air, however, seems to be pretty wholesome. Here are many lakes and rivers, and great quantities of coal and lime-stone; and though there are many barren spots in it, apples, pulse, wheat and other corn, flax and hemp, are or may be raised in it. The most common of the timber-trees are oaks of a prodigious bigness, pine fit for masts, ash, maple, plane, and aspin trees. The coal is procured here, without digging deep, or draining the waters.

Here are great numbers of horses, oxen, hogs, sheep, goats, and poultry, but game is scarce. The partridges are almost as big as pheasants, and not unlike them in the colour of their, feathers. On the coast are many whales, sea-wolves, porpoises, and seals, besides great quantities of cod and other fish.

The English took this island from the French, in 1745; but restored it by the treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, in 1748. They again took it in the beginning of the war of 1756; Louisbourg, its fortress, with the island of St. John, and its other appurtenances, having been surrendered by capitulation on July 26, 1758. All the fortification of the town have been since demolished, in order to avoid expence, and prevent the French from again fettling there.

The island of St. John lies very near to Cape Breton: it is fixty miles long, thirty broad, and the produce is nearly the same as that of Cape Breton, but the soil is much better. The last is now a separate government, in which Charlotte town hath

been lately built. The cluiter of islands called the Bermudas are about four hundred in number, but most of them are sinall, barren, and uninhabited. They are situated in the Atlantic ocean, in thirtytwo degrees twenty minutes north latitude. They, obtained their name, Bermuda, from John Bermudez, a Spaniard, who first discovered them; but they took that of Summer islands from Sir George Sommers, who was shipwrecked here in 1709. They have a pretty clear and temperate air, with plenty of flesh, fish, poultry, fruits, herbs, roots, &c.

These islands belong to England, and have a governor. Cedars grow here; ambergris is found on the shores; and whales and turtles are caught on the coast. Here is a breed of black hogs which are much valued; white chalk-stones and tobacço are exported; oranges, and palmettoes abound, and here is plenty of many other things; but the inhabitants have no water

but what drops from the clouds.

The chief island is that of St. George; which name it takes from George town; and is a pleasant place sixteen miles long, and three broad. Sir Edmund Waller, besides his fine of ten thousand pounds, being banished, chose his retreat hither, where he continued till Oliver Cromwell prevailed over the long parliament. The

The Bahamas are situated in the Atlantic ocean, to the north of the island of Cuba, and not far from the coast of Florida, stretching from the north-west to the south-west, between twenty-one and twenty-seven degrees of south latitude. They are very numerous, and twelve of them pretty large; and belong to Great Britain.

The largest, called Bahama, is about fifty miles in length, though very narrow, and gives name to the rest; it lies twenty-five leagues from the continent of Florida, is every where well watered with springs and rivulets, and enjoys a serene tempe-

rate air, with a fruitful soil.

These islands were the first places discovered by Columbus in America, yet the Spaniards never thought of settling in them. The English knew nothing of them till 1667, when captain William Sayle, being bound to Carolina, was forced among them by a storm, which gave him an opportunity of examining them carefully, particularly that which is at present known by the name of Providence. At his return, he represented the benefit they might be of to the state; whereupon grants of them we made out to proprietors; but the government was referred in the hands of the crown. None of them, however, are yet settled, except Providence, Lucays, and Harbour island; which seems surprising, as some of them would certainly prove of the greatest advantage to Great Britain, if properly cultivated. They are supposed to amount, altogether, to about five hundred. The straights of Bahama, which the British fleets so happily cleared in their last successful expedition against the Havannah, are, by reason of the dangers and difficulties that attend the passing of them, well known to navigators.

The Bahama islands lie near to Hispaniola, and to the noted part of the Havannah, in the island of Cuba, where the Spanish galleons and flota always rendezvous before they return to Europe, having the gulf of Florida to the west, and the windward passage to the east of them. In time of peace, they are capable of great improvement with respect to trade; and have always been a good retreat for disabled ships, blown from different parts of the continent of America. In times of war, the British cruifers and privateers, stationed at these islands, are more able to obstruct and annoy the Spanish trade homeward-bound, than any that are stationed at the rest of the British colonies in America. Accordingly, New Providence, which is a very thriving colony, was of great benefit to the British trade in the late war.

Massau is the chief town of the island.

Falkland's illands were first discovered in 1594, by Sir Richard Hawkins, who named the principal of them Hawkins' Maidenland, in honour of queen Elizabeth. The present name Falkland was probably given them by captain Strong, in 1689,

and afterwards adopted by Halley.

The late lord Egmont, first lord of the Admiralty in 1764, then revived the scheme of a settlement in the South seas; and commodore Byron was fent to take possession of 'Falkland's Islands, in the name of his Britannic Majesty; and in his journal represents them as a valuable acquisition. On the other hand, they are represented by captain M'Bride, who in 1766 succeeded that gentleman, as the outcasts of nature: " We found (fays he) a map of islands and broken lands, of which the soil was nothing but a bog, with no better prospect than that of barren mountains, beaten by storms almost perpetual. Yet this is furnmer; and if the winds of winter hold their natural proportion, those who lie but two cables length from the shore; must pass weeks without any communication with it." The herbs and vegetables which were planted by Mr. Byron's people; and the fir-tree, a native of rugged and cold climates, had withered. In the summer-months, wild celery and forrel are the natural luxuries of these islands. Goats, theep, and hogs that were carried hither, were found to increase and thrive as in other places. Geese of a fishy talte, snipes, penguins, soxes, and sea lions, are also found here, and plenty of good water.

Though the soil be barren, and the sea tempessuous, an English settlement was made here, of which we were dispossed by the Spaniards in 1770. That violence was, however, disavowed by the Spanish ambassador, and some concessions were made to the court of Great Britain; but in order to avoid giving umbrage to the court of Spain, the settlement was after-

wards abandoned.

The illands of Juan Fernandez and Fuera or Masa Fuero are distant from each other about thirty-one leagues: they were first discovered in 1575 by Juan Fernandez a Spaniard, from whom they take their name. The Spaniards distinguish them by the greater and less Juan Fernandez, but the smaller illand is more generally known by the name of Masa-Fuero.

The greater Juan Fernandez lies to the eastward, in latitude thirty-three degrees forty minutes south, and seventy-eight degrees thirty minutes west longitude from London. It is uninhabited, but has good harbours, and was sormerly a place of great resort

for the buccaneers who annoyed the western coast of the Spanish continent. It is also found extremely convenient for the English cruizers to touch at and water; and here they are in no danger of being discovered, unless when, as is generalle the case, their arrival in the South Seas, and their motions, have been made known to the Spaniards by our good friends in Brazil. This illand is famous for having given rife to the celebrated romance of Robinson Crusoe. The ingenious author, Daniel Defoe, derived many hints for writing his hiltory from the papers of one Alexander Selkirk, a Scotchman, who was left ashore in this folitary place by his captain, where he lived some years, till he was discovered by captain Woodes Rogers, in 1709; when taken up, he had forgotten his native language, and could scarcely be understood, seeming to speak his words by halves. He was dreffed in goats skins, would drink nothing but water, and it was some time before he could relish the ship's victuals. During his abode in this island, he had killed five hundred goats, which he caught by running them down; and he marked as many more on the ear, which he let go. Some of these were caught thirty years after, by lord Anson's people. But the Spaniards, in order to deprive the English of the nourishment they formerly procured from the multitude of goats here, have transported thither a considerable number of dogs, which have almost exterminated the species.

This island is not quite fifteen miles long, and about fix broad; its only safe harbour is on the north side. It is said to have plenty of excellent water, and to abound with a great variety of esculent vegetables highly antiscorbutic; besides which, commodore Anson sowed a variety of garden seeds, and planted the stones of plums, apricots, and peaches, which he was many years afterwards informed had thriven greatly, and now doubtless furnish a very valuable addition to the natural productions of this spot. There are but sew birds here, and those sew are of a species well known and common; but vast shoals of sith of various kinds frequent the coast, particularly cod of a prodigious size, and it is said in not less abundance than on

the banks of Newfoundland.

The island of Fuera, or Masa Fuero, lies in thirty-three degrees forty-five minutes south latitude, and eighty degrees forty-fix minutes west longitude from Greenwich. It is of a triangular form, and seven or eight leagues in circumference; is very high and mountainous, and at a distance appears as one hill or rock.

In this island there are such plenty of fish, that a boat, with a few hooks and lines, may catch as much as will serve one hundred people. Here are coal-fish, cavilliers, cod, hallibut, and cray-fish. Captain Carteret's crew caught a king's fisher that weighed eighty-seven pounds, and was five seet and a half long. The sharks here were so ravenous, that in taking soundings one of them swallowed the lead, by which they hauled him above water, but he regained his liberty by discharging his prey. Seals are so numerous here, that if many thousands of them were killed in a night, they would not be missed the next morning. These animals yield excellent train oil; and their hearts and plucks are very good food, having a taste somewhat like those of a hog: their skins are covered with very fine fur. Here are many birds, and some very large hawks. The crew of the Swallow caught in one night seven hundred of the pintado bird.

The island of Chilo, on the coast of Chili, in the district of Imperial, lies in south latitude forty-four, or from forty-two to forty-four, being about one hundred and fifty miles long, and twenty-one broad. The south part of it is divided from the continent by a narrow sea, and the continent there makes a bay. This coast is subject to tempessuous weather, especially in March, when winter begins. The Spaniards have but one little fort in this island, called Chacao, always ill provided with warlike trees. Excepting wine, this illand produces all necessary refreshments and provisions; and much ambergris is found here. Castro is the principal town. About this island are forty more, all taking name from it. Ovalle tells us these islands are reputed barren; but their soil is not really so, only the excessive rains choak the feed, and prevent the growth of corn; so that they are without wheat, wine, or oil, and other plants which need much sun. The nature of the climate of this cluster of illands is such, that it rains almost all the year; so that only maiz, or other such grains, can ripen, that want not so much fun. The diet of the natives is mostly of a root called papahs, which grows bigger here than in any other place. The manufactures are cloathing for the Indians, who have a kind of vest which they call macun, without fleeves; over which they wear a garment called choni, that serves for a cloak, and is like that which painters give to the apostles in their pictures. They raise another manufacture from their woods, particularly planks of cedar, of which they have vast woods of prodigious large trees, so as hardly to be incompassed by a rope of fix yards long.

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